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## Maryland Retired School Personnel Association

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### Senate Bill 994

### In Support Of

### Public Health – Mental Health Advance Directives – Awareness and Statewide Database

### Senate Finance Committee

Hearing: March 22, 2022

Dear Honorable Senator Delores Kelley, Chair, and Honorable Senator Brian Feldman, Vice Chair, and distinguished Finance Committee members,

The Maryland Retired Personnel Association (MRSPA) urge your support of SB 994. It is important that attention is being paid to the increase in mental health issues and public awareness of these issues. Our members need to be informed of and encouraged to use mental health advance directives. As we age there is a greater need to address the mental health of our seniors. We believe that it is important to address these concerns while our seniors are able in order to protect them when they are no longer able to speak for themselves.

This need also applies to many Maryland citizens. A statewide database will enable those with Advanced Directives to be more confident that their wishes will be followed.

On behalf of almost 13,000 members of Maryland Retired School Personnel Association, we urge your support of SB 994.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "George D. Denny, Jr." followed by a stylized flourish.

George D. Denny, Jr.  
President

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Virginia G. Crespo" in a cursive script.

Virginia G. Crespo  
Legislative Aide