

Committee: Senate Finance Committee

Bill Number: Senate Bill 590 - Public Health - Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System -

Requirements

Hearing Date: February 22, 2022

Position: Support

The Licensed Clinical Professional Counselors of Maryland (LCPCM) supports *Senate Bill* 590 – *Public Health - Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System – Requirements.*

There is significant research showing that the adverse childhood experiences can have significant and lasting impacts on mental health. This bill will add questions regarding adverse childhood experiences to a survey of children in our schools. Although this bill will not identify individual children, it will help identify communities in need of support. This data would help the state target mental health resources, which is especially important as the state begins to implement the *Blueprint for Maryland's Future*.

Thank you for your consideration of our testimony. We ask for a favorable report. If we can provide any additional information, please let us know by contacting Scott Tiffin at stiffin@policypartenrs.net or (443) 350-1325.