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Support

Senate Bill 590 – Public Health - Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System - Requirements

Finance Committee

February 22, 2022

The Maryland Assembly on School-Based Health Care (MASBHC) supports Senate Bill 590 – Public Health - Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System - Requirements. This bill seeks to add questions about adverse childhood experiences surveys conducted as part of the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System.

MASBHC has been a part of ongoing conversations around ways to identify the health needs of children in our school systems. A growing amount of research shows that adverse childhood experiences are linked to negative health outcomes. Surveying school-aged children on adverse childhood experiences could help the state and local school systems identify schools that may benefit from increased health services, such as creating school-based health centers.

Thank you for your consideration of our testimony, and we urge a favorable report. If we can provide any further information, please contact Scott Tiffin at stiffin@policypartners.net or (443) 350-1325.