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January 24, 2022

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House Office Building

Annapolis, MD 21401

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RE: HB 32 Mental Health Law – Petitions for Emergency Evaluations – Electronic Records

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Shalena Heard, PhD

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Position: **Support**

Representative to APA Council

Katherine Killeen, PhD

Dear Chair, Vice Chair, and Committee Members:

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Communications

Robyn Waxman, PhD

The Maryland Psychological Association represents over 1000 doctoral level psychologists throughout the state. We write in support of HB 32, which would allow the authorization of a petition or emergency evaluation to be in the form of an electronic record.

Diversity

Whitney Hobson, PsyD

This bill would allow providers to take advantage of new technologies, which allow for the more efficient care of Marylanders. Additionally, it would help to reduce the paperwork burden faced by providers in today's hectic and at times frantic world of healthcare.

Early Career Psychologist

Meghan Mattos, PsyD

Educational Affairs

Laurie Friedman Donze, PhD

For these and many other reasons noted above the Maryland Psychological Association asks for a **FAVORABLE** report on HB 32.

Ethics

Cindy Sandler, PhD

Thank you for considering our comments on HB 32. If we can be of any further assistance as the House – Government and Operations Committee considers this bill, please do not hesitate to contact the MPA Executive Director, Stefanie Reeves, MA, CAE at 410-992-4258 or exec@marylandpsychology.org.

Legislative

Pat Savage, PhD

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Sincerely,

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R. Patrick Savage, Jr., Ph.D.

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cc: Richard Bloch, Esq., Counsel for Maryland Psychological Association
Barbara Brocato & Dan Shattuck, MPA Government Affairs