

Committee:	House Health and Government Operations Committee
Bill Number:	Senate Bill 548 - Local Health Officers - Removal - Grounds and Process
Hearing Date:	March 22, 2022
Position:	Support

The Maryland Nurses Association (MNA) supports *Senate Bill 548 – Local Health Officers* – *Removal – Grounds and Process*. As we have seen during the pandemic, local health officers have been removed from their position because of their decisions to follow public health guidelines about masking policies. Our law should protect local health officers from these arbitrary decisions. Otherwise, the health of our communities could be compromised. This bill delineates the criteria used in decisions to remove health officers, and thus protects local health officers and their communities from politicized decisions.

We ask for a favorable report. If we can provide any additional information, please contact Robyn Elliott at <u>relliott@policypartners.net</u> or (443) 926-3443.