

Committee: House Health and Governmental Operations Committee

Bill Number: House Bill 1082 - Public Health - Consumer Health Information - Hub and

Requirements

Hearing Date: March 9, 2022

Position: Support

The Licensed Clinical Professional Counselors of Maryland (LCPCM) supports *House Bill* 1082 – *Public Health -Consumer Health Information* – *Hub and Requirements*. The bill would establish a state-designated Consumer Information Hub at the University of Maryland and provide \$350,000 in annual state funding.

LCPCM supports this bill because consumers often delay or forgo behavioral health services because of difficulty in navigating Maryland's behavioral health system. Consumer-friendly information about insurance coverage, particularly for out-of-network benefits, would support consumers, as well as the providers trying to assist them. The bill would create a one-stop-shop for any State agency, local agency, or Maryland organization seeking support for creating consumer-friendly educational materials.

We ask for a favorable report. If we can provide any further information, please contact Scott Tiffin at stiffin@policypartners.net.