



Committee: House Health and Government Operations Committee

Bill Number: House Bill 935

Title: Health and Health Insurance - Behavioral Health Services - Expansion
(Behavioral Health System Modernization Act)

Hearing Date: March 9, 2022

Position: Support

The Licensed Clinical Professional Counselors of Maryland (LCPCM) supports *House Bill 935 – Health and Health Insurance - Behavioral Health Services - Expansion (Behavioral Health System Modernization Act)*. This bill will significantly modernize the state’s behavioral health system.

For the several years LCPCM has been a strong supporter of increased investment in behavioral health services. This bill will ensure that the governor includes funding for a variety of community behavioral health services. LCPCM is particularly happy to see that this bill requires coverage of measurement-based care. There is a growing recognition that using standardized measurement tools can help improve the outcomes in behavioral health care. However, the only way providers can fully integrate measurement-based care is if they are able to get reimbursement. By requiring coverage of measurement-based care, this bill will move the state towards ensuring that all Marylanders can access high quality behavioral health services.

We urge a favorable report on House Bill 935 in order to help modernize our state’s behavioral health system. If we can provide any further information, please contact Scott Tiffin at stiffin@policypartners.net.