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Committee: House Ways and Means Committee

Bill Number: House Bill 845 – Income Tax – Subtraction Modification – Income of Health Care Workers

Hearing Date: February 19, 2022

Position: Support

The Maryland Dental Action Coalition (MDAC) strongly supports *House Bill 845 – Income Tax – Subtraction Modification – Income of Health Care Workers*. The bill would provide a \$25,000 subtraction from income for calculating taxes for a two-year-period for certain health care practitioners: 1) primary care providers including ob/gyn, pediatric, and geriatric services; 2) behavioral health; and 3) dental services.

MDAC strives to develop and maintain statewide partnerships to improve the health of all Marylanders through increased oral health promotion, disease prevention, education, advocacy and access to oral health. Oral health is essential overall health, and during the COVID 19 pandemic, fewer individuals were accessing dental care. This in part was due to the exhaustion and burnout of health care professionals, but also the high risk of working directly in patient care.

MDAC supports initiatives that support Maryland’s health care facilities to retain their workforce and continue to provide care to patients. An income tax-subtraction can help retain dentists following a difficult two years related to the pandemic.

We ask for a favorable report on this legislation. If we can provide additional information, please contact Suhani Chitalia at schitalia@policypartners.net.

Optimal Oral Health for All Marylanders