



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Wes Moore, Governor · Aruna Miller, Lt. Governor · Laura Herrera Scott, M.D., M.P.H., Secretary

March 9, 2023

The Honorable Guy Guzzone
Chair, Budget and Taxation Committee
3 West Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

RE: SB 493 – Education - Commission to Study Trauma Center Funding in Maryland – Letter of Support

Dear Chair Guzzone and Committee Members:

The Maryland Department of Health (MDH) respectfully submits this letter of support for Senate Bill (SB) 493 – Commission to Study Trauma Center Funding in Maryland. SB 493 establishes a Commission to study the adequacy of trauma center funding in the State. This bill requires the Secretary or their designee to appoint members to the Commission. The Commission shall make recommendations and findings to the Governor and the General Assembly in a report on December 1, 2023.

Currently, the fund is composed of money received from a \$5 charge on motor vehicle registrations and renewals; this charge has not changed in over 15 years. MDH supports SB 493 as it will help to inform if funding will need to be increased to fully staff the trauma centers, what other funding sources are available, how the funds are being distributed.

If you would like to discuss this further, please do not hesitate to contact Megan Peters, Acting Director of Governmental Affairs at megan.peters@maryland.gov or (410) 260-3190.

Sincerely,

Laura Herrera Scott, M.D., M.P.H.
Secretary