



MARYLAND
PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

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February 24, 2023

Delegate Luke Clippinger, Chair
Delegate David Moon, Vice Chair
Judiciary Committee
Room 101
House Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: HB 801 Criminal Injuries Compensation Board – Eligible Individuals

Position: **Support**

Dear Chair, Vice-Chair and Members of the Committee:

The Maryland Psychological Association, (MPA), which represents over 1,000 doctoral level psychologists throughout the state, asks the House Judiciary Committee to **FAVORABLY report on HB 801.**

The MPA strongly supports HB 801 which would appropriately extend paid mental health services to specific family members of a victim who has received mental health services due to the injury, including a parent, sibling, child, stepchild, and intimate partner.

Violence in its many forms affects the health of the people who are the targets, but also directly impacts their families and communities. Research on the health consequences of violence include increased incidence of depression, anxiety, post-traumatic stress, and suicide; as well as increased risk of cardiovascular disease and premature mortality, among other health care consequences.

In addition, health care research shows that members of the victim’s family suffer similar short-term and long-term health care consequences.

As a result, the MPA supports HB 801. Thank you for considering our comments. . If we can be of any further assistance to as the Judiciary Committee considers this bill, please do not hesitate to contact MPA’s Legislative Chair, Dr. Pat Savage at mpalegislativecommittee@gmail.com.

Respectfully submitted,

Rebecca Resnik, Psy.D.

Rebecca Resnick, Psy.D.
President

R. Patrick Savage, Jr., Ph.D.

R. Patrick Savage, Jr., Ph.D.
Chair, MPA Legislative Committee

cc: Richard Bloch, Esq., Counsel for Maryland Psychological Association
Barbara Brocato & Dan Shattuck, MPA Government Affairs