



Committee: Senate Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee

Bill: Senate Bill 482 - Janet L. Hoffman Loan Assistance Repayment Program - Mental Health Professionals in Public Schools

Hearing Date: February 22, 2023

Position: Favorable with Amendment

The Maryland Assembly on School-Based Health Care (MASBHC) supports *Senate Bill 482 – Education, Energy, and the Environment*. The bill establishes permanent eligibility for mental health professionals in schools to participate in the Janet L. Hoffman Loan Assistance Repayment Program.

MASBCH supports this bill as part of the strategy to address health professional shortages in schools. We would like to request an amendment to require sufficient funding in future fiscal years. The Janet L. Hoffman Loan Assistance Repayment Program is an important program to support those working in public service or serving underrepresented populations. Adding additional qualifying professions will further burden the Program’s limited resources.

We ask for a favorable report with this amendment. If we can provide any additional information, please contact Robyn Elliott at relliott@policypartners.net.