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February 13, 2023

Senator Melony Griffith, Chair
Senator Katherine Klausmeier, Vice Chair
Senate Finance Committee
Miller Senate Office Building, 3 East
Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: SB 255 Public Health– Home– and Community-Based Services for Children and youth

Position: **Support**

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

The Maryland Psychological Association represents over 1000 doctoral level psychologists throughout the state. We write in **support of SB 255**, which would require the Maryland Department of Health to expand access to and provide reimbursement for certain wraparound, intensive in-home, and case management services. It would also require the Governor to include, in the annual budget bill, certain appropriations to fund certain behavioral health services and supports. Wraparound, intensive in-home services, and case management services are vital and effective interventions for children and youth. Moreover, these services are offered in-home and other more easily accessible locations that truly meet the clients where they are, and the positive effects of that type of outreach cannot be underestimated in the value it provides to the treatment process and success.

For the reasons noted above the Maryland Psychological Association asks for a **FAVORABLE** report on SB 255.

Thank you for considering our comments on SB 255. If we can be of any further assistance as the Senate – Finance Committee considers this bill, please do not hesitate to contact MPA's Legislative Chair, Dr. Pat Savage at mpalegislativcommittee@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