



10480 Little Patuxent Parkway, Ste 910, Columbia, MD 21044. Office 410-992-4258. Fax: [410-992-7732](tel:410-992-7732). www.marylandpsychology.org

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

March 6, 2023

Dear Chair Griffith, Vice Chair Klausmeier, and Members of the Committee:

RE: SB 581 – Behavioral Health Care Coordination Value-Based Purchasing Pilot Program

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 Senate Finance Committee to **FAVORABLY report on SB 581.**

The MPA supports the pilot program which would identify at least 500 high risk adults and then utilize a value-based payment system for specialty behavioral health. We do believe that an intensive coordinated care model with a payment system other than fee-for-service can provide efficient and effective care that is also better care for the consumer and less costly to the medical care system. We support the pilot program and look forward to assessing outcomes.

Thank you for considering our comments on SB 581. 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