

Wes Moore, Governor · Aruna Miller, Lt. Governor · Emily Keller, Special Secretary of Opioid Response

February 15, 2023

The Honorable Senator Melony Griffith Chair, Finance Committee 3 East Miller Senate Office Building Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: SB 281 - Commission on Public Health - Establishment - Letter of Support with Amendments

Dear Chair Griffith and Committee Members:

The Opioid Operational Command Center (OOCC) respectfully submits this letter of support with amendments for Senate Bill (SB) 281– Commission on Public Health – Establishment.

The OOCC supports this bill with one amendment. Governor Moore has stated that substance use is a public health issue and this bill references the state's overdose response, thus we are requesting that the Special Secretary of Opioid Response be added as an appointed member of this body.

If you would like to discuss this further, please do not hesitate to contact Teresa Heath, OOCC Deputy Director, at <u>teresa.heath@maryland.gov</u> or 443-381-9289.

Sincerely,

Emily Keller Special Secretary of Opioid Response