

Hearing Date: March 14, 2023

Committee: Finance

Bill: [SB674 – Parity With Other Health Care Practitioners \(Physician Assistant Parity Act of 2023\)](#)

Position: SUPPORT (FAV)

This is a letter in **Support of SB 674- PA Parity with other Healthcare Practitioners (Physician Assistant Parity Act of 2023)**.

Senator,

Maryland residents need you to modernize PA legislation to improve access to healthcare, to support our healthcare systems, and to compete for PAs who are choosing not to practice in our state.

Improve Access to Healthcare

I live in Maryland and know that access to care is a challenge for everyone. This is especially true for our rural and medically underserved citizens. PAs provide critical access to the healthcare system.

My previous practice has been in the VA Healthcare System which continues to improve PA policies and has proven that improved PA legislation has been safe and effective in our region. This legislation is about Maryland catching up to the rest of the country.

Support Our Healthcare Systems

PAs practice in team-based healthcare. Our training, education, and flexibility allows for both large systems and small practices alike to respond to the changing healthcare landscape.

PAs are a cost-effective way for healthcare systems and practices to provide team-based care that is profitable for the organization.

Competition for PAs to live and work in Maryland

I am a PA Educator who works to place PAs in Maryland rural and underserved practices. Students participate in an assignment in which we compare PA practice acts. It is fair to say PA students are surprised and frustrated about legislation in Maryland. There is no barrier for these young professionals to leave our communities for a better practice landscape.

Sincerely,

David J. Bunnell, MSHS, PA-C, DFAAPA

4610 Learned Sage

Ellicott City, MD 21042