

February 23, 2023

Maryland House of Delegates 6 Bladen St. Annapolis, MD. 21401

In Support of HB 1148 / SB 582: Behavioral Health – Behavioral Health Care Model

Members of the Maryland House of Delegate's Health and Gov't Operations Committee.

We are an organization of military and non-military families with over 1500 members and support our local non-profits that fill necessary roles in our non-profit support and services networks. We fully support HB 1148 and the help that it will bring to all the citizens that benefit from a commission that will analyze and help to improve the behavioral health care system across our state.

There is real benefit to the various communities that our health care system serves in both the availability and quality of services being offered to all Maryland citizens. There is so much room for improvement and we hope that the establishment of the commission will be a huge leap forward in this process.

We would like to ask and encourage this committee and MGA members to continue to explore ways to improve access and quality of health care options. Especially as these programs impact a variety of communities including; Black, Brown, Disabled, the elderly or infirmed, Poor, Non-English Speakers, Veterans and Non-Veterans alike.

The future of Maryland's interlocking support service networks supports the lives of so many citizens. And the future care of all Maryland citizens relies on these networks and its service providers. Please support and protect the rights of all citizens with an improved behavioral health care system across our state. We ask the committee to please support House Bill 1148 and return a favorable report.

Thank you for your time, and for considering our testimony today.

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