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March 17, 2023

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Delegate Marks S. Chang, Vice Chair  
Appropriations Committee  
House Office Building, Rm 121  
Annapolis, MD 21401

**Re: Senate Bill 263 – Maryland Higher Education Commission – Access to Mental Health Advisory Committee – Establishment**

**Position: Support**

Dear Chair Barnes, Vice Chair Chang, and Members of the Committee:

The Maryland Psychological Association (MPA), which represents over 1,000 doctoral-level psychologists from throughout the state, is writing in **SUPPORT** of **Senate Bill 263** – Maryland Higher Education Commission – Access to Mental Health Advisory Committee, which is designed to improve mental health access and resources on college campuses.

The mental health needs of the young adults attending Maryland's colleges and universities have never been greater. Even prior to the impact of Covid-19, college mental health resources were severely strained, and an in-depth look at how the college mental health system can be improved is greatly needed. We commend the inclusion of a campus-based psychologist on the Advisory Committee, as psychologists currently provide the bulk of mental health services on college campuses. For these reasons, the Maryland Psychological Association asks for a **FAVORABLE** report on **Senate Bill 263**.

Thank you for considering our comments on **Senate Bill 263**. If we can be of any further assistance as the House – Appropriations Committee considers this bill, please do not hesitate to contact MPA's Legislative Chair, Dr. Pat Savage at [mpalegislativcommittee@gmail.com](mailto:mpalegislativcommittee@gmail.com).

Respectfully submitted,

*Rebecca Resnick, 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