



March 6, 2023

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

In Support - WITH Amendments for HB 1107: Anne Arundel County – School Age Children Mental Health Support System - Pilot program

Members of the Maryland House of Delegate’s Health and Govt Ops and Appropriations Committees.

We are an organization of military and non-military families with over 1500 members and fully support modernizing the healthcare, and modernization of the delivery of behavior related care services all across Maryland.

This bill would be a huge help to families that need the most help caring for their loved ones struggling with behavioral health issues. This bill would help to pilot and potentially provide the necessary services and health care options needed to truly modernize Anne Arundel’s Behavioral Healthcare Treatment System. We are excited to see that this pilot program may be the Blueprint for Maryland’s Future hard at work in our county creating support scaffolding to help service student mental healthy needs.

Concerns-

Amendment - Program OVERSIGHT: Which local agency has oversight authority of such a program? Please specify in the bill’s language.

STUDENT DATA Storage and Usage. However, we do have some concerns as to how the date that is being collected with be stored and shared amongst the agencies at the state levels of Anne Arundel County.

- 1) Who will be the keeper of this demographic and health care data?
- 2) How will this data be stored and shared with other agencies at the county and possibly state levels of government? What will be the ultimate treatment of/for this student data set?
- 3) Will MSDE be involved in this data collection process?

Amendment - Student Data Storage and Usage: We request that the bills language stipulate where the data for student health will be stored and how it will be shared, or used to help to improve the delivery of mental health services and supports within Anne Arundel County.



Possible Resources: With the help of MSDE? Under the guidance of state's MDH, Will the state or local be given access to this data? Will the state or local Department of Social Services?

MD's Longitudinal Data System: The state has the MLDS in place and can use this data repository to store this information and allow for it to be used for the greater good of all Maryland's students.

Moving forward, we hope that the MGA will also work on other constructive ways of supporting our families of persons with behavioral challenges. This one great step forward in supporting our varied socio-economic communities of PAC's families and membership.

Please let's continue to build on this effort to support Maryland families now, and well into the future of healthcare, and behavioral health treatment and the realization of the Blueprint for Maryland's Future.

Please support House Bill 1107 WITH AMENDMENTS and return a favorable report. Thank you for your time, and for considering our testimony today.

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Parent, Lead Advocate and Director of Public Policy

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