



MID-ATLANTIC ASSOCIATION OF  
COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTERS



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TO: The Honorable Brian J. Feldman, Chair  
Members, Senate Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee  
The Honorable Cheryl C. Kagan

FROM: Christine K. Krone  
Pamela Metz Kasemeyer  
J. Steven Wise  
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DATE: February 28, 2024

RE: **SUPPORT** – Senate Bill 492 – *Public Schools – Student Telehealth Appointments – Policy and Access*

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On behalf of the Maryland State Medical Society, the Maryland Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics, the Mid-Atlantic Association of Community Health Centers, and the Greater Washington Society for Clinical Social Work, we submit this letter of **support** for Senate Bill 492.

Senate Bill 492 would require each county board of education to establish a policy to accommodate student telehealth appointments during the school day by requiring each public middle and high school to designate a space for student telehealth appointments.

The above-mentioned organizations support student access to telehealth appointments while in the school setting as it improves and expands a student's ability to access health care providers. The availability of school-based telehealth appointments removes transportation barriers associated with parent/guardians taking time off work to take the student to an in-person appointment. Out of convenience, some parents pull their child out of school for an entire day just to attend one in-person appointment. Providing the ability for a student to take a telehealth appointment at school improves attendance and minimizes missed classwork. For these reasons, we urge a favorable report.

**For more information:**

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