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TESTIMONY – SENATE BILL 13

MARYLAND PEDIATRIC CANCER FUND MODIFICATIONS

FINANCE COMMITTEE

FEBRUARY 6, 2024

Chair Beidle, Vice Chair Klausmeier, and Finance Committee Members:

Senate Bill 13 is a piece of legislation designed to make some clarifying changes to a piece of legislation that I sponsored a couple of years back to establish the Maryland Pediatric Cancer Fund.

This bill would clarify the original intent of the establishing legislation and help to cement the fund as primarily a research entity aimed at researching innovative treatment methods for pediatric cancer. Included amendments to this legislation would create a commission to coordinate distribute monies allocated in the fund and to bring some additional stakeholders to the table that can ensure the aims of pediatric cancer research are established.

Again, the aim of this legislation is to simply cement the intent of the establishment of the Maryland Pediatric Cancer Fund as a mechanism for funding pediatric cancer research in our State.

For the reasons listed above, I ask for a favorable report of Senate Bill 13.