SB453 POSITION: SUPPORT

Caroline Harrison 9591 Quarry Bridge Court Columbia, MD

My adult son was on a ventilator in ICU for 10 days as a result of serious mental illness and because Maryland has no AOT. He's had 7 forced psychiatric hospitalizations in a period of 1 year, again, due to no AOT in Maryland. He's never adhered to a regimen of medication and he likely will relapse again. He's suffered a great deal as have I because when he hurts I hurt too.

Please, put an end to the revolving door hospitalizations, reduce incarcerations and homelessness among those who suffer serious mental illness! AOT has been proven to work and why Maryland is one of only three states without this on the books is beyond imagination.

Please, end the suffering of my son, myself, and multiple other families and bring hope and help so desperately needed by supporting this chance to move our state forward!

I respectfully ask for your strong and urgent support of SB453.

Sincerely,

Caroline Harrison