



Committee: Senate Finance Committee

Bill Number: Senate Bill 475 – Center for Firearm Violence Prevention - Establishment

Hearing Date: February 29, 2024

Position: Support

The Maryland Nurses Association (MNA) supports *Senate Bill 475 – Center for Firearm Violence Prevention - Establishment*. The bill would establish the Center for Firearm Violence Prevention and Intervention under the Department of Health.

Acts of gun violence have continued to increase in both the community and health care settings. As frontline providers, nurses are directly and indirectly impacted by gun violence and witness first-hand the devastation and traumatic aftermath of gun violence for patients, families, and communities. This bill recognizes that firearm violence is a public health issue. The Maryland Department of Health will work with families, communities, schools, and local officials to design and implement evidence-based prevention and intervention strategies.

We urge a favorable report on this bill. If we can provide any further information, please contact Robyn Elliott at relliott@policypartners.net or (443) 926-3443.