



## Maryland Community Health System

<b>Committee:</b>	<b>House Health and Government Operations Committee</b>
<b>Bill:</b>	<b>House Bill 65 - Public Schools - Medical and Psychological Treatment in</b>
<b>School-</b>	<b>Based Health Centers and Public Schools - Parental Notice</b>
<b>Hearing Date:</b>	<b>March 13, 2024</b>
<b>Position:</b>	<b>Oppose</b>

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The Maryland Community Health System opposes *House Bill 65 - Public Schools - Medical and Psychological Treatment in School-Based Health Centers and Public Schools - Parental Notice*. The bill would require school-based health care practitioners to report information about services provided to students to their parents.

MCHS is a network of federally qualified health centers with 55 sites across Maryland. Some of our health centers provide services to students at school-based health center. This bill would have a profound impact on access to needed health care students for minors. Maryland's law currently provides for minors to consent to a narrow range of services, including birth control and behavioral health counseling. The law was designed to protect the health and wellbeing of students, as students may forgo services out of fear of the reaction of their parents. The law already provides for the ability of a health care practitioner to disclose information about these services to parents when necessary.

We ask for an unfavorable report. If any additional information would be helpful, please contact Robyn Elliott at [relliott@policypartners.net](mailto:relliott@policypartners.net).