

**MARYLAND JUDICIAL CONFERENCE**  
**GOVERNMENT RELATIONS AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS**

Hon. Matthew J. Fader  
Chief Justice

187 Harry S. Truman Parkway  
Annapolis, MD 21401

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** House Judiciary Committee  
**FROM:** Legislative Committee  
Suzanne D. Pelz, Esq.  
410-260-1523  
**RE:** House Bill 1019  
Mental Health Law – Petitions for Emergency Evaluation  
**DATE:** February 13, 2024  
(2/28)  
**POSITION:** Support as amended

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The Maryland Judiciary supports House Bill 1019 as amended with the attached amendments.

The language of the bill provides for a five (5) day extension of the relief granted in a court endorsed Petition for Emergency Evaluation. The Judiciary understands the purpose and intent of the amended language, as individuals subject to evaluation are often unable to be located by peace officers prior to the expiration of the time period authorizing evaluation. Although the current language of the bill does provide a standard of proof (good cause), it does not provide a mechanism by which the extension may occur. The amendments would address this issue and would indicate who may petition for an extension of the relief granted in the court endorsed Petition for Emergency Evaluation.

Therefore, the Judiciary supports the bill as amended.

cc. Hon. Tiffany Alston  
Judicial Council  
Legislative Committee  
Kelley O'Connor



HB1019/413029/1

AMENDMENTS  
PREPARED  
BY THE  
DEPT. OF LEGISLATIVE  
SERVICES

19 FEB 24  
11:37:48

BY: Delegate Alston  
(To be offered in the Health and Government Operations  
Committee and the Judiciary Committee)

AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE BILL 1019  
(First Reading File Bill)

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 1, in line 4, after "court," insert "on a certain motion and"; and in line 5, after "time;" insert "requiring a court to include the date the petition expires on the petition.".

AMENDMENT NO. 2

On page 2, in line 8, after "**(2)**" insert "**(1)**"; in the same line, strike "**THE**" and substitute "**SUBJECT TO SUBPARAGRAPH (II) OF THIS PARAGRAPH, ON A MOTION, THE**"; in line 9, strike "**AN ADDITIONAL**" and substitute "**UP TO**"; in the same line, after "**DAYS**" insert "**AT A TIME, BUT NOT TO EXCEED A TOTAL OF 30 DAYS**"; and after line 9, insert:

**"(II) 1. A MOTION UNDER SUBPARAGRAPH (I) OF THIS PARAGRAPH MUST BE MADE BY THE ORIGINAL PETITIONER.**

**2. EACH EXTENSION SHALL BE BASED ON A SEPARATE MOTION.**

**(E) THE COURT SHALL INCLUDE ON THE PETITION THE DATE THE PETITION EXPIRES.**".