



Delegate Vanessa E. Atterbeary, Chair
Delegate Jheanelle K. Wilkins, Vice Chair
Ways and Means Committee
Room 131
House Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

January 13, 2024

Bill: House Bill 0074 – Public Schools - Lifesaver Schools Program - Establishment

Position: Support

Dear Chair Atterbeary, Vice Chair Wilkins, and Members of the Committee:

I am writing on behalf of the Maryland School Psychologists' Association, a professional organization representing about 500 Maryland school psychologists. We advocate for the social-emotional, behavioral, and academic wellbeing of students and families across the state.

We support House Bill 0074, which designates public schools that provide specific health and safety training as "Lifesaver Schools". To qualify, schools must offer evidence-based CPR and first aid training; offer a mental health wellness program or peer mentoring program; provide service hours for health and wellness activities; and provide resources on the school website regarding physical and mental health. MSPA supports legislation encouraging Maryland schools to prioritize mental and physical health and that increases mental health resources within the school building.

Therefore, for the above reasons, we urge a favorable report on HB0074. If we can provide any further information or be of any assistance, please contact us at legislative@mspaonline.org or Sarah Peters at speters@hbstrategies.us or 410-322-2320.

Respectfully submitted,

Bradley Leposa, PHD NCSP
Co-Chair, Legislative Committee
Maryland School Psychologists' Association.