



<https://www.medicaid.gov/federal-policy-guidance/downloads/sho24005.pdf>

**Maryland Association of School Health Nurses**



**Bill Number:** Senate Bill 790 – Maryland Department of Health - Workgroup to Implement Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic, and Treatment Requirements

**Committee:** Senate Finance Committee

**Hearing Date:** March 4, 2025

**Position:** Support

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The Maryland Association of School Health Nurses supports *Senate Bill 790 – Maryland Department of Health – Workgroup to Implement Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic, and Treatment Requirements*. This bill requires the Maryland Department of Health to convene a workgroup on behavioral health screenings for children in Medicaid’s Early Periodic Screening, Diagnostic, and Treatment (EPSDT) program. We are hopeful that recent guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention on the EPSDT Program could expand access to behavioral health screening for children in Maryland. The guidance advises that “States should avoid requiring an EPSDT-eligible child to have a specific behavioral health diagnosis for the provision of services, as screenings may identify symptoms that require attention but do not meet diagnostic criteria”.<sup>1</sup>

We ask for a favorable report. If we can provide additional information, please contact Robyn Elliott at [relliott@policypartners.net](mailto:relliott@policypartners.net).

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.medicaid.gov/federal-policy-guidance/downloads/sho24005.pdf>