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Patrick Moran – President

**SB 741 – Forensic Mental Health Treatment
Finance Committee
March 4, 2025**

Position: FAVORABLE WITH AMENDMENT

AFSCME Council 3 represents 50,000 state, county, and municipal employees, including those working at MDH Forensic Facilities and within the Community Forensic Aftercare Program. Our members are on the frontlines of the forensic mental health treatment system, providing care and support from admission through discharge and beyond. SB 741 mandates a certificate of need when a healthcare facility in Maryland closes five or more psychiatric beds, and it also establishes a forensic mental health workgroup.

AFSCME Council 3 fully supports SB 741, with the following amendment:

AFSCME Amendment on SB 741

On. Pg. 6, Line 21, add:

THE PRESIDENT OF AFSCME COUNCIL 3, OR THE PRESIDENT’S DESIGNEE.

Our members are dedicated to providing the best care for their patients, and we believe this amendment is essential to ensure that the voices of frontline staff, who interact with this population daily, are heard. We are grateful to the sponsors for recognizing the value of our members' work and strongly encourage the committee to pass SB 741 with the sponsor amendments.

Thank you for your continued support and advocacy for the vulnerable Marylanders who rely on the care provided by our forensic mental health professionals who work in state government.