

To: House Health and Government Operations Committee

Bill: House Bill 1437 – Catastrophic Health Emergency - Immunity for Health Care Providers -

Repeal

Date: March 11, 2025

Position: Unfavorable

The Maryland Academy of Physician Assistants (MdAPA) strongly opposes *House Bill 1437 – Catastrophic Health Emergency - Immunity for Health Care Providers - Repeal*. The bill would repeal immunity from civil and criminal liability for health care providers acting in good faith and under a catastrophic health emergency proclamation.

This bill would cost lives in a catastrophic health emergency, including health emergencies created by natural disasters such as hurricanes, wildfires, or flooding. Healthcare practitioners could not volunteer to be first responders without putting themselves in legal jeopardy.

We ask for an unfavorable report. If we can provide any further information, please contact Robyn Elliott at <a href="mailto:relliott@policypartners.net">relliott@policypartners.net</a>.