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To: Members of the House Judiciary Committee  
From: Maryland State Bar Association's Criminal Law and Practice Section (MSBA)  
Subject: HB 311 – Correctional Services – Medical Parole – Life Imprisonment  
Date: February 21, 2025  
Position: **Support**

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The Legislative Committee of the Criminal Law and Practice Section of the Maryland State Bar Association (MSBA) supports **House Bill 311 – Correctional Services – Medical Parole – Life Imprisonment.**

The bill removes the Governor from the approval process for medical parole. It closes a gap left by the adoption of earlier legislation that removed the Governor from other decisions related to inmates serving life sentences.

The growing number of inmates in the state penal system who are in need of a high degree of medical care poses continuing problems for the state. Removing an obstacle that can prevent the release of inmates who need care and who no longer pose a danger to the public is a wise action.

For these reasons, the Committee respectfully urges a **favorable report on House Bill 311.**

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