



Senate Bill 24

*State Emergency Medical Services Board –
Public Access Automated External Defibrillator Program - Revisions*

February 18, 2026

Position: **FWA**

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee:

The Restaurant Association of Maryland has had discussions with Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services Systems (MIEMSS) staff regarding Senate Bill 24.

We raised concerns about additional requirements that this legislation imposed on restaurants and grocery stores as introduced. These additional requirements would have been beyond the requirements established in § 21 330.3 of the Health General Article (per legislation enacted in 2023).

MIEMSS has submitted amendments to Senate Bill 24 to address our concerns. We have reviewed those amendments, and they are acceptable to us. Therefore, our position on this bill is *Favorable with Amendments*.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Melvin R. Thompson", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Melvin R. Thompson
Senior Vice President
Government Affairs and Public Policy