



BILL: SB 205

POSITION: FAV - Favorable

COMMITTEE: FINANCE

DATE: January 26, 2026

SUBMITTED BY: Maryland Department of Disabilities
217 East Redwood Street, Suite 1300
Baltimore, MD 21202

Dear Chair Beidle,

The Maryland Department of Disabilities (MDOD) is pleased to submit this letter of support for **SB 205, Health Insurance - Mental Health and Substance Use Disorders - Codification of Federal Requirements**. SB 205 would codify into state law certain provisions requiring that insurance coverage for mental health and substance use disorder services has parity with insurance coverage for somatic health services.

Individuals with disabilities are twice as likely to experience co-occurring conditions such as anxiety, depression, and substance use disorder. This legislation recognizes the crucial need to ensure that mental health and substance use disorder services are subject to no stricter requirements than those applied to services for somatic conditions.

MDOD respectfully requests a **favorable report on SB 205**. Thank you for ensuring that people with disabilities have the best access possible to the insurance coverage they need.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Carol A. Beatty".

Carol A. Beatty
Secretary, Department of Disabilities