

Hearing 2/27 at 1:00 p.m.
Senate Finance Committee

Health, Health Insurance, and Health Occupations - Perinatal Mental Health Conditions
(SB0891)

Position: Favorable

Chair Beidle and members of the Senate Finance Committee,

My name is Susan Brennan, and I write this letter in strong **support** of SB0891, Health, Health Insurance, and Health Occupations - Perinatal Mental Health Conditions. This bill would expand perinatal mental health screenings and require patient and provider training related to perinatal mental health. In short, this bill will save lives.

As a registered nurse and lactation consultant, I have the privilege of supporting and educating families in the perinatal period. Research has shown that 1 in 5 women and 1 in 10 men may experience depression or anxiety during this vulnerable time. When the mental health of a parent is at risk, the entire family unit is affected.

Moms, families, and communities in Maryland would greatly benefit from the passage of this bill. As such, I ask for a favorable report.

Sincerely,



Susan Brennan
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