

# MARYLAND PSYCHIATRIC SOCIETY



February 17, 2026

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The Honorable Pamela Beidle  
Finance Committee  
3 East Miller Senate Office Building  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Support: SB 738: Maryland Medical Assistance Program and Health Insurance - Required Coverage - Mobile Crisis and Crisis Stabilization

Dear Chairwoman Beidle & Members of the Committee:

The Maryland Psychiatric Society (MPS) and the Washington Psychiatric Society (WPS) are state medical organizations whose physician members specialize in diagnosing, treating, and preventing mental illnesses, including substance use disorders. Formed more than sixty-five years ago to support the needs of psychiatrists and their patients, both organizations work to ensure available, accessible, and comprehensive quality mental health resources for all Maryland citizens and strive through public education to dispel the stigma and discrimination of those suffering from a mental illness. As the district branches of the American Psychiatric Association covering the state of Maryland, MPS/WPS represent over 1200 psychiatrists and physicians currently in psychiatric training.

MPS/WPS support Senate Bill 738: Maryland Medical Assistance Program and Health Insurance - Required Coverage - Mobile Crisis and Crisis Stabilization. Passage of this bill would require that insurers, nonprofit health service plans, and health maintenance organizations provide coverage for mobile crisis and crisis stabilization services. These services are critically needed when individuals are in crisis (e.g. agitation, suicidal thoughts). Mobile crisis providers assess individuals at their homes in order to address safety concerns and ensure that the individuals receive needed treatment. The provision of crisis services is an integral part of mental health treatment. As such, MPS and WPS ask the committee for a favorable report on SB 738.

If you have any questions regarding this testimony, please contact MPS lobbyist, Lisa Harris Jones at [lisa.jones@mdlobbyist.com](mailto:lisa.jones@mdlobbyist.com).

Respectfully Submitted,  
The Maryland Psychiatric Society & Washington Psychiatric Society  
Legislative Action Committee