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House Health Committee

March 3, 2026

House Bill 1485 – *Public Health – Crisis Response System – Resources for Family Members and Trauma-Informed Care Training (Tiarra's Law)*

POSITION: SUPPORT

The Maryland State Medical Society (MedChi), the largest physician organization in Maryland, **supports** *House Bill 1485: Public Health – Crisis Response System – Resources for Family Members and Trauma-Informed Care Training (Tiarra's Law)*.

By requiring the development and distribution of a standardized crisis resource pamphlet, House Bill 1485 promotes consistent communication and improves access to critical support systems when they are needed most. This bill strengthens Maryland's crisis response system by ensuring that patients and families receive clear information about available behavioral health resources, including the 9-8-8 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline, and by evaluating trauma-informed care training for health care providers.

The bill's focus on reviewing and strengthening trauma-informed care training is equally important. Trauma-informed approaches improve patient trust, reduce stigma, and enhance outcomes, particularly for individuals affected by behavioral health emergencies. Ensuring that providers are equipped with best practices in trauma-informed engagement supports both patient safety and quality of care.

House Bill 1485 was introduced in response to the tragic death of Tiarra, a young Marylander whose family reported significant gaps in communication, follow-up support, and access to crisis resources after her behavioral health emergency. Her family's experience highlighted how, in the aftermath of a crisis or sudden death, loved ones are often left without clear guidance about available services. The bill reflects lessons learned from that tragedy and seeks to ensure that no family navigating a similar crisis is left without timely information and connection to resources.

For these reasons, MedChi requests a favorable report on House Bill 1485.

For more information call:

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