



January 30th, 2026

Maryland Senate
Finance Committee
3 Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Dear Honorable Chair, Vice-Chair, and Members of the Committee:

On behalf of the pediatric nurse practitioners (PNPs) and fellow pediatric-focused advanced practice registered nurses (APRNs) of the National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners (NAPNAP) Maryland Chesapeake Chapter, we are writing to express our **support with amendment of SB240: Office of Health Care Quality Stakeholder Advisory Council – Establishment.**

We commend the efforts of the Maryland General Assembly to enhance healthcare quality and accessibility through the establishment of this advisory council. However, we believe that in order to truly represent the diverse health needs of our population, particularly our children, it is vital to amend this legislation to explicitly include pediatric-focused organizations, such as NAPNAP and the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), as active stakeholders on the council. The inclusion of these organizations will ensure that the unique concerns and perspectives related to pediatric healthcare are effectively addressed in all discussions and recommendations made by the council.

Pediatric healthcare is distinct in many ways, including developmental considerations, specific health challenges, and the need for family-centered care. By involving pediatric healthcare-focused organizations, the council will benefit from the expertise of professionals who are specifically trained to understand and advocate for the health and well-being of children and adolescents. This perspective is essential for establishing relevant policies and practices that will enhance the quality of care delivered to Maryland's young population. Our organizations are committed to promoting high-quality healthcare for children and families. Including pediatric voices in the stakeholder advisory council will support collaborative efforts to improve health outcomes, standardize best practices, and address the specific healthcare challenges that impact our youngest residents. This amendment will also foster a stronger alliance between child health advocates and the broader healthcare community, ultimately leading to a more comprehensive approach to health care in Maryland.

For these reasons, the Maryland Chesapeake Chapter of NAPNAP extends their support with amendment of SB240: Office of Health Care Quality Stakeholder Advisory Council - Establishment **and requests a favorable report.** The pediatric advanced practice nurses of your state are grateful to you for your attention to these crucial issues. The Maryland Chapter of NAPNAP membership includes over 200 primary and acute care pediatric nurse practitioners who are committed to improving the health and advocating for our state's pediatric patients. If we can be of any further assistance, or if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the Maryland Chapter legislative chair, Dr. JD Murphy, at mdchesnapnapleg@outlook.com.

Sincerely,

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Maryland Chapter Legislative Chair

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