

January 30th, 2026

Maryland House of Representatives
Health Committee
240 Taylor House Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

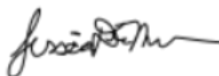
Dear Honorable Chair, Vice-Chair, and Members of the Committee:

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 of HB181: Public Health – Restaurants – Disclosure of Main Food Allergens.**

Food allergies are a rising public health concern, particularly for children, who are often the most vulnerable to severe allergic reactions. An estimated 4-6% of children in the United States have food allergies, and many of these reactions occur outside the home, particularly in public settings such as restaurants. As pediatric healthcare providers, we understand the critical importance of safeguarding our children's health and well-being. Allergy-related emergencies can lead to life-threatening anaphylactic responses, which require immediate action. By mandating restaurants to disclose allergens, this legislation will not only improve the safety of our dining experiences but also enhance overall awareness and understanding of food allergies among restaurant staff and patrons alike.

For these reasons, the Maryland Chesapeake Chapter of NAPNAP extends their **support to HB181: Public Health – Restaurants – Disclosure of Main Food Allergens 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,



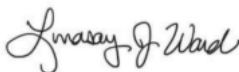
Dr. Jessica D. Murphy DNP, CPNP-AC, CPHON, CNE
Maryland Chapter Legislative Chair



Dr. Evgenia Ogorodova DNP, CPNP-PC
Chapter Legislative Co-Chair



Dr. Yvette Laboy DNP, CPNP-AC,
CCRN, CPN; Chapter President



Ms. Lindsay Ward MSN, CPNP-PC,
IBCLC; Immediate Past-President



Dr. Samantha Hoffman DNP, MS,
CPNP-PC; Chapter President-elect