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March 11, 2026

Delegate Heather Bagnall, Chair  
Delegate Bonnie Cullison, Vice Chair  
Health Committee  
240 Taylor House Office Building  
241 Taylor House Office Building  
Annapolis, MD 21401

**RE: HB 1094 Health Insurance – Graduate Level Clinical Interns Required Reimbursement**

**Position: SUPPORT**

Dear Chair Bagnall, Vice Chair Cullison, and Members of the Committee:

The Maryland Psychological Association, (MPA), which represents over 1,000 doctoral level psychologists throughout the state, asks the House Health Committee to **report favorably on HB 1094**.

HB 1094 allows health insurance reimbursement for behavioral health services provided by graduate-level clinical interns in counseling, social work, and psychology when those services are delivered under the direct supervision of a licensed professional and billed by the supervising clinician. This legislation recognizes the reality of how behavioral health care is delivered in many outpatient settings and ensures that patients can receive reimbursement for clinically appropriate services delivered as part of supervised training programs. By clarifying that services provided by graduate-level interns are reimbursable when provided under supervision and billed by the licensed clinician, the bill helps remove unnecessary financial barriers to care.

HB 1094 also supports the development of Maryland's behavioral health workforce. Graduate-level clinical training programs are an essential pathway for preparing the next generation of mental health professionals. *Allowing supervised interns to participate in reimbursable clinical services helps expand access to care, particularly in outpatient settings that rely on training programs to serve patients with significant unmet mental health needs. At a time when many communities in Maryland are experiencing shortages of behavioral health providers, this legislation promotes both workforce development and increased service capacity.*

HB 1094 appropriately safeguards patient care by requiring that interns be enrolled in accredited graduate programs, practice under direct supervision, and have services billed through the supervising licensed professional. These provisions ensure accountability and maintain professional oversight while allowing patients to benefit from expanded access to services.

For these reasons, we respectfully urge the committee to give HB 1094 a favorable report.

If we can be of any further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact MPA's Legislative Chair, Dr. Stephanie Olarte, Ph.D. at [mpalegislativcommittee@gmail.com](mailto:mpalegislativcommittee@gmail.com).

Respectfully submitted,

*Stephanie Wolf, JD, Ph.D.*  
Stephanie Wolf, JD, Ph.D.  
President

*Stephanie Olarte, Ph.D.*  
Stephanie Olarte, Ph.D.  
Chair, MPA Legislative Committee

cc: Barbara Brocato & Dan Shattuck, MPA Government Affairs