

SB 707

Jean Aylward

10125 Thornwood Road

Kensington, MD 20895

Position: FAVORABLE

The current danger standard may prevent my loved one from getting timely psychiatric evaluation/hospital treatment in the future. SB 707 could prevent my loved and others from receiving life-saving treatment when it matters most.

SB 707 strengthens the ability of providers and families to intervene earlier and more effectively to help prevent crises and protect individuals with severe mental illness (SMI) and their communities.

This bill ensures "danger" covers situations where a person with a severe mental illness (SMI) faces a substantial risk of:

- Causing bodily harm to themselves or others.
- Being unable to provide for basic needs including food, clothing, shelter, medical care, self-protection, or safety to a degree that risks serious harm, illness, or death.

SB 707 is a practical, compassionate step that will save lives, reduce suffering, incarceration and homelessness and strengthen public safety.

Please give a favorable report to SB707 as amended in the Senate, without changes.

Thank you,

Jean Aylward