



**Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee
April 1, 2026**

**House Bill 16 - Correctional Services - Maryland Parole Commission -
Members and Hearing Examiners**

POSITION: SUPPORT

The National Association of Social Workers – Maryland Chapter, an organization representing social workers statewide, supports House Bill 16. This bill will alter the appointing authority and method of parole commissioners to the Maryland Parole Commission.

The inclusion of our organization in a newly created nominating panel will ensure better representation of broad interests across the state and enhance the likelihood that these important decision-makers will better reflect the communities that they serve. As social workers, we bring a comprehensive understanding of the intersection of poverty, mental health, stigma, and structural racism and the criminal justice system. This will help inform decisions that the Parole Commission makes.

We urge you to give House Bill 16 a favorable report. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

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