



Committee: House Ways and Means Committee

Bill: House Bill 197 - Comprehensive Community Safety Funding Act

Hearing Date: March 5, 2026

Position: Support

The Maryland Affiliate of the American College of Nurse Midwives (ACNM) supports *House Bill 197 – Comprehensive Community Safety Funding Act*. The bill is a critical part of Maryland’s strategy to address the impact of gun violence on the health of Marylanders and their communities. As healthcare providers, we are concerned about the 671 deaths and 780 emergency room visits as a result of firearms in Maryland in 2024.ⁱ We also are deeply concerned about the cumulative impact of gun violence on mental health on young people and at-risk communities. Maryland needs additional resources to address these issues, and for that reason, we ask for a favorable report on this legislation. If we can provide any further information, please contact Robyn Elliott at relliott@policypartners.net or (443) 926-3443.

ⁱ <https://health.maryland.gov/newsroom/Pages/preliminary-state-prevention-plan-and-firearm-violence-data-dashboard.aspx>