



Committee: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee
Bill Number: SB 147
Title: Task Force on Higher Education Students with Chronic Health Conditions
Hearing Date: January 20, 2021
Position: Support with Amendment

The Maryland Nurses Association (MNA) supports *Senate Bill 147 – Task Force on Higher Education Students with Chronic Health Conditions*. The Task Force will make recommendations that support a student’s successful transition from secondary to higher education. While in secondary school, there is a highly structured support system for students with special health needs. When these students move into young adulthood and higher education, they may no longer be able to access that same support system. Thus, these students are at greater risk for poor health and educational outcomes.

The Task Force is inclusive of families, educators, and clinicians in developing recommendations. The Maryland Nurses Association would appreciate a seat on the Task Force. Nurses play a critical role in supporting young adults in both secondary and higher education. We think our perspective could enrich the work of the Task Force. We ask for the following amendment:

On page 2 after line 6 insert “(vi) a nurse representing the Maryland Nurses Association”

Thank you for your consideration of our testimony, and we urge a favorable vote and appreciate consideration of our amendment. If we can provide any further information, please contact Robyn Elliott at relliott@policypartners.net or (443) 926-3443.