



Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of the Mid-Atlantic States, Inc
2101 East Jefferson Street
Rockville, Maryland 20852

February 16, 2021

The Honorable Delores G. Kelley
Senate Finance Committee
3 East, Miller Senate Office Building
11 Bladen Street
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

RE: SB 425 – Support

Dear Chair Kelley and Members of the Committee:

Kaiser Permanente is pleased to support – SB 425 – “Workgroup on Screening Related at Adverse Childhood Experiences.”

Kaiser Permanente is the largest private integrated health care delivery system in the United States, delivering health care to over 12 million members in eight states and the District of Columbia.¹ Kaiser Permanente of the Mid-Atlantic States, which operates in Maryland, provides and coordinates complete health care services for approximately 775,000 members. In Maryland, we deliver care to over 450,000 members.

Kaiser Permanente believes creating and enhancing measures to screen our youth for mental health challenges are paramount in forging pathways from trauma and toxic stress to recovery and healing. Studies show the impact of trauma is very broad and can impact a person across many parts of life: health, behavioral health, family, work, school and more. Roughly 59% of men and women experience at least one adverse childhood experience (ACE) in their life and 9% experience five or more ACEs. Moreover, children with histories of such experiences are twice as likely to have chronic health conditions.

Kaiser Permanente supports this legislation and would seek a seat on the workgroup if this legislation is enacted.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. Please feel free to contact Allison Taylor at Allison.W.Taylor@kp.org or (202) 924-7496 with questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Allison Taylor".

Allison Taylor
Director of Government Relations
Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Mid-Atlantic States, Inc.

¹ Kaiser Permanente comprises Kaiser Foundation Health Plan, Inc., the nation’s largest not-for-profit health plan, and its health plan subsidiaries outside California and Hawaii; the not-for-profit Kaiser Foundation Hospitals, which operates 39 hospitals and over 650 other clinical facilities; and the Permanente Medical Groups, self-governed physician group practices that exclusively contract with Kaiser Foundation Health Plan and its health plan subsidiaries to meet the health needs of Kaiser Permanente’s members.