



Maryland Occupational Therapy Association

PO Box 36401, Towson, Maryland 21286 ♦ motamembers.org

Committee: House Health and Government Operations Committee

Bill Number: Senate Bill 52

Title: Public Health – Maryland Commission on Health Equity (The Shirley Nathan-Pulliam Health Equity Act of 2021)

Hearing Date: March 23, 2021

Position: Support

The Maryland Occupational Therapy Association (MOTA) supports *Senate Bill 52 – Public Health – Maryland Commission on Health Equity (The Shirley Nathan-Pulliam Health Equity Act of 2021)*. This bill establishes a Maryland Commission on Health Equity to develop a comprehensive plan to achieve health equity in the state.

Occupational therapy practitioners work with individuals across the life span to enhance existing skills, restore skills, and adapt environments to meet an individual’s needs. We work in a variety of settings including schools; assisted living and nursing homes; hospitals and outpatient community health settings; and people’s homes and workplaces. With this, we understand the importance of addressing health equity in all areas of life, not just within our health care systems; and fully support the creation of a Commission on Health Equity.

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