

**BRYAN W. SIMONAIRE**  
*Legislative District 31*  
Anne Arundel County

—  
MINORITY LEADER  
—

Education, Health, and  
Environmental Affairs Committee

*Subcommittees*

Chair, Alcohol

Health  
—

Joint Committee on the Chesapeake and  
Atlantic Coastal Bays Critical Area



James Senate Office Building  
11 Bladen Street, Room 423  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
410-841-3658 · 301-858-3658  
800-492-7122 Ext. 3658  
Fax 410-841-3586 · 301-858-3586  
Bryan.Simonaire@senate.state.md.us

*The Senate of Maryland*  
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

**Written Testimony in SUPPORT of SB 164**

Madam Chair and members of the Finance Committee, I am here to introduce and voice my support for Senate Bill 164 – Veterans – Behavioral Health Services – Mental Health First Aid.

Senate Bill 164 would require that the behavioral health services for which the Maryland Department of Health provides service coordination for veterans under certain provisions of law include mental health first aid and would require that mental health first aid consist of training for veterans and the immediate family members of veterans on how to identify and respond to signs of mental illness and substance use disorders. The bill would also require entities teaching a mental health first aid course to report certain information to the Department.