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February 4, 2021

Senator Delores G Kelley, Chair

Senate Finance Committee

Maryland Senate

11 Bladen Street

Miller Senate Office Building, 3 East

Annapolis, MD 21401

Bill: Senate Bill 299 - Human Services - Trauma-Informed Care - Commission and Training

Position: Support with Amendment

Dear Chair, Vice Chair, and Committee Members:

The Maryland Psychological Association (MPA), which represents over 1,000 doctoral-level psychologists from throughout the state, is writing in support of **Senate Bill 299 - Human Services - Trauma-Informed Care - Commission and Training**. We are discussing the following amendment with the Sponsor, and respectfully request consideration as a friendly amendment, the addition of the following Commission members:

“Two Licensed Mental Health Clinicians with expertise in trauma, including demonstrated experience and training in Children and Adolescent Care, and Family Care”

We believe that this will add another important dimension to the work of the Commission and provide important experience and expertise that encompass all ages and stages of life.

For these reasons, the Maryland Psychological Association asks for a **FAVORABLE** report on Senate Bill 299 with the amendment.

Thank you for considering our comments on SB 299. If we can be of any further assistance, or if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the MPA Executive Director, Stefanie Reeves, MA, CAE at 410-992-4258 or exec@marylandpsychology.org.

Sincerely,

Esther Finglass

R. Patrick Savage, Jr.

Esther Finglass, Ph.D.

President

Committee

R. Patrick Savage, Jr., Ph.D.

Chair, MPA Legislative

cc: Richard Bloch, Esq., Counsel for Maryland Psychological Association
Barbara Brocato & Dan Shattuck, MPA Government Affairs