



Committee: House Judiciary Committee

Bill Number: House Bill 129

Title: Behavioral Health Crisis Response Services and Public Safety Answering Points – Modifications

Hearing Date: January 26, 2022

Position: Favorable

The Maryland Nurses Association (MNA) supports *House Bill 129 – Behavioral Health Crisis Response Services and Public Safety Answering Points – Modifications*. This bill seeks to reduce unnecessary law enforcement involvement in incidents where individuals are experiencing a behavioral health crisis.

MNA supports efforts to ensure there is a more clinical, rather than law enforcement, focus on supporting individuals in behavioral health crises. These efforts will result in better clinical outcomes as well as a decreased reliance on emergency rooms and hospitalization for behavioral health patients.

We urge a favorable report on Senate Bill 129. If we can provide any further information, please contact Scott Tiffin at stiffin@policypartners.net.