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To: Members of The House Judiciary Committee

From: Doyle Niemann, Chair, Legislative Committee, Criminal Law and Practice Section

Date: February 18, 2022

Subject: **HB920 – Correctional Services – Medical Parole – Life Imprisonment**

Position: **Support**

The Legislative Committee of the Criminal Law & Practice Section of the Maryland State Bar Association (MSBA) **Supports HB920 – Correctional Services – Medical Parole – Life Imprisonment.**

This bill removes the Governor from the approval process for medical parole. It closes a gap left by last year's adoption of legislation that removed the Governor from other decisions.

The growing number of inmates in the state penal system who are in need of a high degree of medical care poses continuing problems for the State. Removing an obstacle that can prevent the release of inmates who need care and who no longer pose a danger to the public is a wise action.

For the reasons stated, we **Support HB920 – Correctional Services – Medical Parole – Life Imprisonment.**

If you have questions about the position of the Criminal Law and Practice Section's Legislative Committee, please feel free to address them to me at 240-606-1298 or at doyleniemann@verizon.net.