Maryland
Hospital Association

House Bill 1118- Health, Health Insurance, and Health Occupation – Perinatal Mental Health Conditions

Position: ***Support with Amendments***
March 13, 2026
House Health Committee

MHA Position

On behalf of the Maryland Hospital Association's (MHA) member hospitals and health systems, we appreciate the opportunity to comment in support with amendments of House Bill 1118.

Perinatal mental health conditions affect thousands of Maryland families each year and are often preventable and treatable when identified early. Addressing these conditions is not only a matter of compassionate care, but also a public health imperative. Hospitals support efforts to strengthen the continuum of perinatal mental health care that protects both maternal and infant health.

Hospitals share the goal of ensuring patients are connected to appropriate services early in pregnancy and throughout the postpartum period. HB 1118 helps strengthen maternal health outcomes if implemented in a way that reflects how screening and referral processes work in clinical practice and ensures that every Maryland mother has access to timely care.

We are grateful for the opportunity to collaborate with the sponsors and other stakeholders on this legislation and look forward to continuing working closely as the bill is amended.

For these reasons, MHA requests a favorable with amendments report on House Bill 1118.

For more information, please contact:
Natasha Mehu, Vice President, Government Affairs & Policy
Nmehu@mhaonline.org