

2013 PRELIMINARY END OF SESSION WRAP-UP

The 2013 Session of the Maryland General Assembly drew to a close at midnight on April 8. After years of spending cuts and revenue increases, the onetime \$2 billion structural deficit has been all but eliminated. As such, the budget situation was not as dire as in years past. Accordingly, the focus in the mental health arena over the past ninety days was directed primarily at policy issues rather than budgetary concerns. Despite a torrent of misinformation drawing a correlation between mental illness and violence, the MHAMD public policy team and our Coalition partners worked successfully to protect individual and civil rights, address gaps in the public mental health safety net, advance implementation of health care reform and the federal parity law, and defeat stigmatizing and regressive legislation.

BUDGET

Governor Martin O'Malley introduced his Fiscal Year 2014 budget proposal in early January. The proposal included funding for the expansion of Medicaid to 138% of the federal poverty level, a 2.54% rate increase for community mental health providers, and an increase in specialty physician (psychiatrists) evaluation and management rates to the 2013 Medicare rate, effective July 1, 2013.

In analyzing the budget proposal, the Department of Legislative Services (DLS) predicted and made recommendations addressing an expected \$11.3 million surplus in the MHA FY13 budget. The legislature adopted DLS-recommended language to utilize FY13 surplus funds to (1) conform the specialty rate increases for psychiatrists to the same implementation date (January 1, 2013) as all other specialty physicians (\$2.1 million), and (2) eliminate an FY12 deficit carried into FY13 (\$4.2 million). The legislature rejected a recommendation to cut the remaining \$5 million in expected surplus funds. Additionally, the legislature adopted budget language requiring reports on residential treatment center outcome measures, community-based programming options for older adults with serious mental illness, crisis response services, behavioral health integration, and mental health services for transition age youth.

The Governor issued a supplemental budget appropriation in early April bringing both good and bad news. The good: \$5 million was added to the community services budget to establish a Center for Excellence on Early Intervention for Serious Mental Illness (\$1.2 million), and to expand crisis response services (\$2 million), crisis intervention teams (\$1.5 million), and Mental Health First Aid (\$300,000). The bad: some of the legislative action related to the FY13 MHA surplus was reversed. The \$2.1 million for retroactive rate increases was eliminated and the \$5 million surplus that was to be used for community services was effectively redirected to cover the increased cost of Clifton T. Perkins Hospital Center employee overtime and patient off-grounds hospitalization. Calls by MHAMD and others to restore this funding were unsuccessful.

In sum, budget action during the 2013 legislative session resulted in the following:

- 6.5% increase in MHA operating budget for FY14
- 2.54% community mental health provider rate increase
- Specialty physician rate increases for psychiatrists effective July 1, 2013
- \$3.5 million for crisis response services and crisis intervention teams
- \$1.2 million to establish Center for Excellence on Early Intervention for Serious Mental Illness (note: budget language provides that these funds may not be used to support administrative or indirect costs and may be used only for direct care services or research activities)
- \$300,000 to expand Mental Health First Aid
- Expected FY13 budget surplus used partially to address carryover deficit of \$4.2 million, to cover increased costs at Perkins Hospital Center, and any remainder will revert to the General Fund

Capital Budget

Unlike the Operating Budget items discussed above, capital projects include things such as construction and renovation of new and existing facilities, site development and improvements, and real property acquisition. This year, the legislature approved \$5.25 million for the Community Health Facilities Grant Program, which provides capital grants for the acquisition, design, construction, renovation, and equipping of facilities that provide mental health, developmental disabilities, and substance use services. Of the eleven projects the Program is supporting in FY14, five are community mental health projects, two serve individuals with mental illness and substance use disorders, and one serves individuals with mental illness and/or a developmental disability. Many of these projects will provide housing for individuals with serious mental illness.

For several years, private developers have lobbied the State seeking to purchase property at Spring Grove Hospital Center. The legislature and executive branch have shown interest in utilizing this opportunity to redevelop Spring Grove, Maryland's largest and oldest State-run psychiatric hospital. Recent reports have detailed issues around inadequate facility infrastructure, inefficiency, and the need to improve patient space. Accordingly, the legislature this year appropriated \$400,000 to design and renovate existing structures at Spring Grove Hospital Center to consolidate patient activity.

THE FIREARM SAFETY ACT OF 2013

Following tragic shootings in Connecticut and elsewhere prior to the start of Session, Governor O'Malley made gun control one of his priority legislative initiatives in 2013. The Firearm Safety Act of 2013 (SB 281 (passed)) bans the sale of assault-style weapons, limits magazines to ten rounds, and institutes fingerprinting and licensing requirements for handgun ownership. Of concern to MHAMD were the mental health provisions of the legislation. Supportive of efforts to ensure that

violent individuals do not have access to firearms, MHAMD cautioned against singling out a wide spectrum of non-violent individuals living with mental illness and urged the legislature to balance public safety with the protection of individual civil and constitutional rights.

As passed, the bill is slightly more restrictive than federal standards related to mental illness and gun ownership. Individuals found incompetent to stand trial and those found not criminally responsible will be disqualified from gun possession. Current language disqualifying individuals "confined for more than 30 consecutive days" in a mental health facility has been amended and clarified. While the current 30-day standard will remain for individuals *voluntarily* admitted to a facility, gun ownership is now prohibited for those *involuntarily* committed for any length of time. MHAMD advocated throughout the session for total conformity to the federal standard – which exempts from prohibition those receiving treatment in a facility voluntarily – but supported the 30-day standard as a compromise in the face of Senate action that would have unjustly identified thousands of voluntary patients for inclusion in a federal database.

In addition to defeating the Senate amendment, MHAMD, the Maryland Psychiatric Society, the Maryland Disability Law Center, the Maryland Psychological Association and many Coalition allies effectively thwarted an attempt to alter current requirements regarding the reporting of potentially dangerous patients to law enforcement by mental health professionals. Current law provides a clear standard for clinicians regarding when to notify law enforcement, treat or commit an individual. Leaving no room for professional judgment, the proposed amendment would have fractured the doctor/patient relationship, discouraged individuals from seeking treatment, and jeopardized public safety.

THE MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER SAFETY NET ACT OF 2013

While a considerable amount of 2013 legislation arose from a misinformed perspective on mental illness, the increased attention afforded opportunity as well. Through the introduction of the Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder Safety Net Act of 2013 (SB 822/HB 1245), MHAMD sought to ensure this attention was used productively to address longstanding unmet need. Specific provisions of the bill focused on service areas that will not be addressed through the implementation of federal health care reform and would have (1) required full implementation of the statewide crisis response system, (2) ensured the availability of school mental health in all public schools, (3) expanded the use of evidence-based practices, (4) improved early identification and intervention of substance use disorders, (5) addressed infrastructure needs of community mental health providers, (6) improved access to geriatric behavioral health services, (7) addressed reentry services and other criminal justice needs, (8) required annual investment in housing, and (9) improved mental health literacy and awareness.

Doomed by a fiscal note of nearly \$200 million, MHAMD was under no misconception that the legislation would pass as drafted. The goal all along was to make incremental progress, raise

awareness as to the need and create a roadmap for the future. Although the bill did not pass, budget language was included to advance the statewide mental health crisis response system and the Governor's supplemental budget included funding for safety net priorities, including \$3.5 million for crisis response services, \$1.2 million for evidence-based services, and \$300,000 for Mental Health First Aid. Crisis services budget language requires MHA to report on the current availability of crisis response services (CRS) in each jurisdiction, the recommended continuum of CRS in each jurisdiction, and a plan for fully implementing CRS statewide.

PARITY AND HEALTH CARE REFORM

The effective implementation of the federal Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act (MHPAEA) remains a core goal of MHAMD. During the 2013 session a package of bills was introduced at the request of MHAMD, NCADD Maryland, and the University of Maryland Drug Policy Clinic to address parity compliance and to enable consumers to enforce their rights under the law.

HB 1216/SB 581 (passed) requires insurers to provide notice on their websites and annually in print to members (1) of the benefits required under State and federal parity laws and (2) that the member may contact the Maryland Insurance Administration (MIA) for further information. The bill will also assist consumers in enforcing their rights by making important 'release of information' documents more accessible and by requiring the MIA to post on its website information about the complaint process, including where an individual may turn for assistance in filing a complaint. HB 1252/SB 582 (passed) requires that the criteria and standards used in conducting utilization review for mental health and substance use benefits are in compliance with MHPAEA. With this standard in statute, MIA will now have authority to examine the utilization review criteria of private review agents to ensure they comply with federal parity. Heavy opposition from insurers and a fiscal note from MIA prevented passage of HB 1001/SB 585 (failed). The bill would have required insurers to file annual reports demonstrating parity compliance. Work is already underway to continue these efforts during the interim and to address additional concerns related to network adequacy.

MHAMD also remained actively involved in Maryland efforts to implement the federal Affordable Care Act. The Maryland Health Progress Act of 2013 (HB 228 (passed)) marks the last step in a three year process. MHAMD worked in partnership with the Women's Coalition for Health Care Reform, the Community Behavioral Health Association and others to successfully advocate for the inclusion of critical continuity of care provisions for individuals transitioning between Medicaid and private health plans. An amendment that would have eliminated all continuity of care provisions for individuals receiving or transitioning from fee-for-service Medicaid mental health services was prevented and revised to ensure protections for those transitioning from Medicaid to Qualified Health Plans. Additionally, an amendment establishing a standing advisory committee to the Health Benefit Exchange was secured. Modeled after the Medicaid Advisory Committee, the group will convene in March 2014 and is charged with providing recommendations on important consumer issues.

OTHER LEGISLATION

Criminal Justice

As chair of the Mental Health and Criminal Justice Partnership (MHCJP), MHAMD supports all efforts to prevent recidivism and promote the successful reentry of ex-offenders. The 2013 Session saw a number of reentry measures introduced, many finding a favorable result.

SB 479/HB 854 (passed) allows for the expungement of certain public nuisance crimes and misdemeanor offenses for which an individual was found not criminally responsible (NCR). If an individual commits a crime but lacks capacity to appreciate the criminal nature of the crime because of a mental illness, a finding of NCR is made and the individual is ordinarily ordered for treatment in lieu of incarceration. Unfortunately, a finding of NCR results in barriers to housing and employment, preventing meaningful participation in society following treatment. This bill will help to remove those barriers in certain instances.

For the fourth straight year, MHAMD supported legislation to "ban the box." SB 4 (passed) prohibits the State from inquiring into the criminal history of an applicant for employment until the applicant is selected for an interview. This gives individuals with criminal histories a chance to get further in the job application process and an opportunity to explain their circumstances to a prospective employer.

Initially a recommendation from the Task Force on Prisoner Reentry, HB 1006/SB 701 (failed) was reintroduced again in 2013. As introduced, the legislation would have allowed for individuals to request that records related to nonviolent misdemeanors be shielded from public view three years after the completion of their sentence. In the end the bill was heavily amended, providing only for the shielding of certain citation offenses. Even so, the bill drew a great deal of opposition and a conference committee was unable to settle differences between the two chambers.

Mental Health and Disability

The Qualifying Employees with Disabilities Tax Credit allows employers who hire a qualified individual with disabilities to claim a tax credit in the first two years of employment. MHAMD supported SB 124/HB 43 (passed) to repeal the termination date of this tax credit, which has increased employment opportunities for individuals living with mental illnesses and other disabilities.

MHAMD supported SB 632 (passed), which establishes the State Brain Injury Trust Fund to assist in the provision of a variety of services to individuals who have sustained brain injuries. The bill received unanimous support in both chambers.

Individuals with mental illness may receive housing vouchers or Social Security payments due to their disability. Current law allows landlords and sellers to discriminate against prospective tenants

based on the source of their income. MHAMD supported SB 487/HB 603 (failed), which sought to prohibit such practices. For the first time in over a decade, the bill received a favorable report from the Senate Judicial Proceedings committee. Unfortunately, a floor fight ensued and opponents of the measure motioned to recommit the bill to committee. The motion passed by a vote of 23-22 and the bill was effectively killed.

A great deal of stigma was present this year in legislation related to mental illness. HB 969 (failed) would have created a commission to examine a range of issues, including the creation of a system "whereby individuals in schools or colleges who display a negative or 'dark' affect can be identified and monitored." MHAMD opposed the bill, arguing that the State should not be condoning and encouraging a humiliating practice of profiling students that are different or quiet. MHAMD also opposed SB 1040/HB 1258 (failed), which would have expanded the manner in which individuals with mental illness are involuntarily committed and medicated against their will. The bill passed the Senate but was never acted on in the House.

Older Adults

There is a rising need for specialized attention to the mental health and substance use disorder needs of older adults. Maryland continued in 2013 to heed the national call for heightened outreach and support to this population, one that suffers disproportionately from neglected behavioral health concerns. SB 83 (passed) establishes Maryland Access Point (MAP), which promises to be the primary point of interface between Maryland citizens and the long-term services and supports that exist to address individual health and functional needs.

MHAMD also supported SB 679/HB 690 (passed), which creates an entity to continue and expand on the work initiated by the Maryland Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders Commission. This legislation received unanimous support in both chambers.

Children and Adolescents

Depression, post-traumatic stress disorder, and suicide attempts are all common mental health issues among homeless youth. MHAMD supported SB 764/HB 823 (passed), which establishes a Task Force to identify and study the unique needs of this population, evaluate the resources available to meet those needs, and make recommendations for legislative and budgetary action.

Many group homes are therapeutic facilities that provide a nurturing environment and a stable living situation with an emphasis on the psychological, social and educational needs of their residents. Such homes allow children, many of whom are living with a mental health issue, to live together in a residential setting with the advantages of a family-like structure. MHAMD opposed several discriminatory bills that would have made it more difficult for these children to become part of the community. HB 679 (failed) and SB 939/HB 1307 (failed) would have required the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DHMH) to provide notice to local law enforcement before contracting for or authorizing a group home for children.

MHAMD 2013 Priority/Monitor Bill List

Bill #	Name	Purpose	Sponsor	Committee	Crossfile	MHAMD Position	Bill Status
<u>HB 43</u>	Income Tax Credit for Qualifying Employees Suffered Repetitive Injuries	Repeals sunset on tax credit for employees who hire people with disabilities.	Glass	W&M	SB 124	SUPPORT	BILL PASSED
<u>HB 48</u>	Minority Business Enterprises - Vol-for-Profit Entities	Removes not-for-profit entities that provide the benefits of a socially and environmentally responsible corporation for the definition of minority business enterprise (MBE). <i>As amended, the bill preserves preferred procurement status for programs that employ persons with disabilities and grants a 5% minority MBE contract award bid before 7/1/13.</i>	B. Robinson	HGO/E&E	SB 1066	MONITOR	BILL PASSED
<u>HB 54</u>	Criminal Procedure - State Vulnerable Adult Abuser Registry	Requires DPSCS establish and maintain online registry of individuals convicted of vulnerable adult abuse crimes.	B. Robinson	HGO & JUD	SB 354	MONITOR	UNFAVORABLE
<u>HB 57</u>	Department of Health and Mental Hygiene - Health Care Facilities - Office of Health Care Quality - Abuser Registry Workgroup	Establishes a registry of health care facility employees who were terminated for abusing or neglecting patients and prevents employment at another health care facility. <i>As amended, the bill requires DHEC to reconvene a prior workgroup to further determine and reflect in health care settings.</i>	B. Robinson	HGO/FIN	SB 355	MONITOR	BILL PASSED
<u>HB 61</u>	State Brain Injury Trust Fund	Establishes a special fund to provide certain services to eligible individuals who have sustained brain injuries.	McConkey	HGO	SB 632	SUPPORT	PASSED HOUSE / NO SENATE ACTION [Amended crossfile passed]
<u>HB 67</u>	Health Care Decisions Act - Incapacity to Make Informed Decision - Certification by Psychologist	Alters certification requirement regarding a patient's incapacity to make informed decision about treatment to allow second individual making certification be a psychologist, rather than a second physician.	Kipke	HGO	SB 121	MONITOR	WITHDRAWN
<u>HB 138</u>	Video Lottery Proceeds - Education Trust Fund - Security and Mental Health Services at Public Schools	Authorizes slots proceeds credited to the Education Trust Fund to provide for security personnel and equipment and mental health services at public schools.	Kipke	W&M		SUPPORT	NO COMMITTEE ACTION
<u>HB 211</u>	Public Safety - Handgun Permits - Qualifications	Alters a provision of law related to prohibiting possession of a firearm by individuals with mental illness and history of violence.	Vitale	JUD		OPOSE	NO COMMITTEE ACTION
<u>HB 228</u>	Mendland Health Progress Act of 2013	Last step of three year effort to establish health benefit exchange and fully implement Federal Affordable Care Act.	Administration	HGO/FIN & 921	SB 124	SUPPORT WITH AMENDMENT	BILL PASSED

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<u>HB 294</u>	Firearm Safety Act of 2013	Gun control measure. Bans sale of assault weapons, limits magazine size, and institutes fingerprinting and licensing standards. Also makes standards related to access of individuals with mental illness to regulated firearms more restrictive.	Administration	JUD & HGO	SB 281	SUPPORT WITH AMENDMENT	NO COMMITTEE ACTION [Amended crossfile passed]
<u>HB 322</u>	Motor Vehicle Administration - Yellow Dot Program	Provides for a more focused emergency response after auto accidents by alerting EMTs to pertinent medical info in the glove box.	K. Kelly	HGO	SB 222	SUPPORT	WITHDRAWN
<u>HB 326</u>	Criminal Procedure - Vulnerable-Adult Abuser Registry	Requires DDMH establish and maintain online registry of individuals convicted of vulnerable adult abuse crimes.	Glenn	JUD	SB 333	MONITOR	UNFAVORABLE
<u>HB 394</u>	Education - Primary and Secondary Schools - Electronic Control Devices	Authorizes schools to designate and train "safety officers" and make tasers available to them.	McDermott	W&M		OPPOSE	UNFAVORABLE
<u>HB 541</u>	Criminal Procedure - Certificate of Rehabilitation Completion	Establishing a process by which a non-violent ex-offender may be issued a certificate indicating rehabilitation from previous criminal involvement. [As amended, the bill authorizes DPSCS to issue certificates to offenders to signify completion of conditions of supervision.]	Hough	JUD/JPR	SB 571	OPPOSE / MONITOR AS AMENDED	PASSED HOUSE / NO SENATE ACTION
<u>HB 581</u>	Hospitals - Establishment of Palliative Care Pilot Programs - Requirement	Requires each of the hospitals that result from the implementation of palliative care program to file a report. As amended, the bill establishes criteria for palliative care pilot programs and reporting requirements.	Wagner	HGO/HN		SUPPORT	NO COMMITTEE ACTION
<u>HB 603</u>	Home Act of 2013	Prohibits landlords and sellers from discriminating against prospective tenants based on the source of their income.	Lafferty	ENV	SB 487	SUPPORT	NO COMMITTEE ACTION
<u>HB 679</u>	Juvenile Services - Group Homes and Institutions - Notice Requirement	Requires Department to provide notice to local law enforcement before contracting for or authorizing a group home for children.	Walker	JUD		OPPOSE	UNFAVORABLE
<u>HB 690</u>	Virginia Holmes Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders Council	Creates entity to continue the efforts of the Virginia Holmes Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders Council.	Wagner	HGO/HN	SB 675	SUPPORT	NO COMMITTEE ACTION
<u>HB 698</u>	Out-of-Court Business Development Program Study	Requires court evaluation of feasibility of establishing a business development program for ex-offenders.	Tennant	JUD/FIN	SB 936	SUPPORT	NO COMMITTEE ACTION
<u>HB 810</u>	Mental Health Professionals - Duty to Report Risk of Serious Harm - Firearm Safety	Requires mental health professionals to report individuals they determine are likely to engage in conduct that would result in serious harm to self or others.	Simmons	HGO & JUD		OPPOSE	NO COMMITTEE ACTION

Bill #	Name	Purpose	Sponsor	Committee	Crossfile	MHAMID Position	Bill Status
HB 821	Courts and Judicial Proceedings - Communications Between Patient of Client and Psychologist or Licensed Psychologist Health Care Professional - Exceptions to Privilege	Creating exceptions, in certain instances, to the privilege of communications between a patient and a psychiatrist or psychologist.	Simmons	JUD/JPR		MONITOR	PASSED HOUSE / NO SENATE ACTION
HB 823	Task Force to Study Housing and Supportive Services for Displaced Homeless Youth	Establishes the task force to study the unique needs of the population, collect and evaluate data, and make legislative and funding recommendations.	W. Washington	APPH/HE	SB 764	SUPPORT	BILL PASSED
HB 824	Task Force to Study Access of Individuals with Mental Illness to Regulated Firearms - Extension	Extending the task force until June 30, 2014.	Rosenberg	HGO & JUD		MONITOR	PASSED HOUSE / NO SENATE ACTION
HB 824	Task Force to Study Access of Individuals with Mental Illness to Regulated Firearms - Extension	Extending the task force until June 30, 2014.	Rosenberg	HGO & JUD		MONITOR	PASSED HOUSE / NO SENATE ACTION
HB 894	Firearms - Dealer's License and Handgun Permit Applications Fees	Increasing firearm licensing and permit fees and using the revenue to support crisis intervention and training for law enforcement and health care workers.	Rosenberg	JUD		SUPPORT	NO COMMITTEE ACTION
HB 915	Department of Health and Mental Hygiene - Advance Directive Registry - Fee and Date of Operation	Requires Secretary to set a fee to utilize the Registry and take steps necessary to make it operational by October 1, 2014.	Arona	HGO	SB 790	MONITOR	WITHDRAWN
HB 931	Maryland Medical Assistance Program - Telemedicine	Allows health care providers to be reimbursed for telemedicine services delivered to Medicaid recipients.	Lee	HGO	SB 496	MONITOR	PASSED HOUSE / NO SENATE ACTION
HB 934	Task Force on the Use of Telehealth Services in Maryland Health Care Telemedicine Task Force Maryland Health Care Commission	Establishes the task force to identify opportunities related to telehealth, assess certain factors, review and consider research and make recommendations. <i>(As amended, direct the bill expires: intent that HGO continue to study telehealth throughout telemedicine task force.)</i>	Lee	HGO/FN	SB 776	MONITOR	BILL PASSED
HB 945	Children's Cabinet in the Governor's Office for Children - Study on Health and Social Services Needs of Juveniles	Requires Children's Cabinet to review and report on efforts and programs implemented in the State to assess, diagnose, treat and prevent mental, emotional and behavioral disorders in juveniles.	Valentino-Smith	HGO		MONITOR	WITHDRAWN
HB 969	Commission to Consider Mental Health-Related Ways to Limit Mass Violence by Individuals with Antisocial Personality Disorders, Depressive Disorders, or Other Mental Illness	Creates the Commission to study and report on issues related to violent video games, early identification of at-risk mentally ill individuals, a potential system to monitor students who display a negative or "dark" affect, and more.	George	HGO		OPPOSE	WITHDRAWN

Bill #	Name	Purpose	Sponsor	Committee	Crossfile	MA/MD Position	Bill Status
HB 1001	Health Insurance - Federal and State Mental Health and Addiction Parity Laws - Report on Compliance	Requires insurers submit annually a report demonstrating parity compliance.	Hammen	HGO	SB 585	SUPPORT	WITHDRAWN
HB 1006	Criminal Records - Shielding - Nonviolent Misdemeanor Convictions	Allows for individuals to request that records related to nonviolent misdemeanors be shielded from public view three years following completion of sentence. <i>[As amended, the bill provides for the shielding of one conviction for certain citation offenses committed before age 26.]</i>	Anderson	JUD/JPR	SB 701	SUPPORT	PASSED HOUSE / NO SENATE ACTION
HB 1015	Health Insurance - Step Therapy or Fail-First Protocol	Limits duration of insurer policies that establish a specific sequence in which prescription drugs are to be prescribed.	Bromwell	HGO	SB 746	SUPPORT WITH AMENDMENT	NO COMMITTEE ACTION
HB 1062	Hospitals - Notice to Patients - Outpatient Status and Other Implications	Requires a hospital to provide notice to a patient of their outpatient status, the billing implications of that status, and the impact on eligibility for Medicare and other services.	Collison	HGO/EN	SB 105	MONITOR	BILL PASSED
HB 1112	Criminal Procedure - Persons Committed as Not Criminally Responsible - Release	Allows a court to hold a de novo hearing after an OAH decision to release a person found NCR. Currently the court only review the evidence from the OAH hearing.	Mitchell	JUD	SB 556	OPPOSE	UNFAVORABLE
HB 1120	Mental Hygiene Administration - Upper Shore Community Mental Health Center - Reopening and Maintenance	Would reopen the Upper Shore Community Mental Health Center that was closed in 2010.	Jacobs	HGO	SB 972	OPPOSE	UNFAVORABLE
HB 1133	Public Safety - Restrictions on Possession of Firearms - Convicted Felons and People with Mental Disorders	Establishes that a violation of the provisions against possessing a firearm for mental health reasons is a 15 year felony.	Wilson	HGO & JUD		OPPOSE	WITHDRAWN
HB 1216	Health Insurance - Federal Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act - Consumer Benefits Notices and Other Matters	Requires insurers provide members with no-cost or low-cost access to mental health and substance use services under the federal parity law and access to non-covered mental health and substance use services. <i>[As amended, requires a provider to provide members with needed services for less than 100% of the member's out-of-pocket costs.]</i>	Arcy	HGO/EN	SB 581	SUPPORT	BILL PASSED
HB 1245	Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder Safety Net Act of 2013	A variety of provisions aimed at addressing longstanding unmet need related to mental health and substance use disorders.	Rosenberg	HGO	SB 822	SUPPORT	NO COMMITTEE ACTION
HB 1252	Health Insurance - Federal Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act - Utilization Review Criteria and Standards	Provides the Maryland Insurance Administration with the authority to ensure insurers' utilization review criteria are fair and equitable.	Arcy	HGO/EN	SB 582	SUPPORT	BILL PASSED

Bill #	Name	Purpose	Sponsor	Committee	Crossfile	MHAMD Position	Bill Status
<u>HB 1256</u>	Workers' Compensation - Occupational Disease - Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder	Establishes that first responders suffering from PTSD as a result of their official duties are eligible for workers' compensation	Rosenberg	ECM		SUPPORT	WITHDRAWN
<u>HB 1258</u>	Mental Hygiene - Reform of Laws and Delivery of Services	Expands the manner in which individuals with mental illness may be involuntarily committed and medicated.	Hough	HGO	SB 1040	OPPOSE	NO COMMITTEE ACTION
<u>HB 1275</u>	Public Safety - Regulated Firearms - Firearm and Permit Surcharge	Imposes surcharges on firearm purchases and handgun permits to fund local and statewide mental health services programs.	Carlin	JUD		SUPPORT	NO COMMITTEE ACTION
<u>HB 1286</u>	Education - Due Process Hearings for Children with Disabilities - Burden of Proof	Places the burden of proof in IEP due process hearings on the school rather than the family.	Braveboy	W&M	SB 691	SUPPORT	WITHDRAWN
<u>HB 1307</u>	Juvenile Services - Group Homes and Institutions - Notice	Requires Department to provide notice to local law enforcement before contracting for a group home for children.	Valderrama	JUD	SB 939	OPPOSE	UNFAVORABLE
<u>HB 1350</u>	Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services - Reinvestment of Savings to Prisoner Reentry Programs	Requires Department to submit a report detailing savings achieved and options for reinvesting in reentry programs as recommended by the Task Force on Prisoner Reentry.	McConkey	APP/B&T		SUPPORT	PASSED HOUSE / NO SENATE ACTION
<u>HB 1355</u>	Public Safety - Regulated Firearms - Application Fee and Mental Health Certification	Increases firearm application fee and reduces the consecutive number of days an applicant may not have spend in a facility for treatment of a mental disorder.	Costa	Rules		OPPOSE	WITHDRAWN
<u>HB 1377</u>	State Government - Mental Health and Law Enforcement Advisory Board	Establishes the Board to make recommendations regarding creating a Maryland Criminal Justice and Behavioral Health State Technical Assistance Center.	James	HGO & JUD	SB 956	SUPPORT WITH AMENDMENT	WITHDRAWN
<u>HB 1423</u>	Task Force to Study Mental Illness Among Students in Public Schools	Establishes a task force to study study and make recommendations on improving the diagnosis and treatment of public school students with mental illness.	Smigiel	Rules		MONITOR	NO COMMITTEE ACTION
<u>HB 1484</u>	Mental Health - Crisis Response - Standards and Protocol	Requires the development of standards to be followed by mobile mental health crisis response teams in the State.	Nathan-Pulliam	Rules		MONITOR	NO COMMITTEE ACTION
<u>HB 1496</u>	Mental Hygiene Administration - Psychiatric Bed Registry - Report	Requires a report on the progress of implementing and operating the psychiatric bed registry developed by the Mental Hygiene Administration and MHEMSS.	Rosenberg	Rules		SUPPORT	NO COMMITTEE ACTION

Bill #	Name	Purpose	Sponsor	Committee	Crossfile	MHAMID Position	Bill Status
<u>SB 274</u>	State Personnel Appointments for Government Criminal History Records Checks	San the box with some exceptions, prohibit inquiry into criminal history of applicants for employment with the State until the individual has appointment for an interview.	Fugitt	FIN/APP		SUPPORT	BILL PASSED
<u>SB 183</u>	Department of Aging - Aging and Disability Resource Center Program - Maryland Access Point	Establishes a program to provide a coordinated system of information and access for individuals seeking long-term services and supports (LTS), including in-home community care and institutional services, through a centralized LTS or specific medical diagnosis. <i>Amendment includes addition of the populations served.</i>	Department of Aging	FIN/HGO		SUPPORT WITH AMENDMENT	BILL PASSED
<u>SB 121</u>	Health Care Decisions Act - Incapacity to Make Informed Decision - Certification by Psychologist	Alters certification requirement regarding a patient's incapacity to make informed decision about treatment to allow second individual making certification be a psychologist, rather than a second physician.	Klausmeier	FIN/HGO	HB 67	MONITOR	PASSED SENATE / NO HOUSE ACTION
<u>SB 122</u>	Income Tax Credit for Quality Care Employees - Sunset Repeal and Extension	Repeals sunset on tax credit for employers who hire people with disabilities.	Paros	B&T/W&M	HB 43	SUPPORT	BILL PASSED
<u>SB 195</u>	Hospitals - Notice to Patients - Grievances, Disputes and Billing Implications	Requires a hospital to provide notice to patients of the complaint status, financial implications, and the impact on eligibility for Veterans' benefits.	Kelley	FIN/HGO	HB 1062	MONITOR	BILL PASSED
<u>SB 222</u>	Motor Vehicle Administration - Yellow Dot Program	Provides for a more focused emergency response after auto accidents by alerting EMTs to pertinent medical info in the glove box.	Raskin	JPR	HB 322	SUPPORT	UNFAVORABLE
<u>SB 274</u>	Maryland Health Progress Act of 2013	Last step of three year effort to establish Health Benefit Exchange and fully implement federal Affordable Care Act.	Administration	FIN & B&T	HB 228	SUPPORT WITH AMENDMENT	PASSED SENATE / NO HOUSE ACTION [Amended crossfile passed]
<u>SB 281</u>	Firearm Safety Act of 2013	Stricter control measures on sale of assault weapons, including magazine size and includes magazine capacity limiting standards. Also makes standard related to process of individuals with mental illness to regulated firearms more restrictive.	Administration	FIN/HGO & JUD	HB 224	SUPPORT WITH AMENDMENT	BILL PASSED
<u>SB 333</u>	Criminal Procedure - Vulnerable Adult Abuser Registry	Requires DHMH establish and maintain online registry of individuals convicted of vulnerable adult abuse crimes.	Gladden	JPR	HB 326	MONITOR	WITHDRAWN

Bill #	Name	Purpose	Sponsor	Committee	Crossfile	MHAMID Position	Bill Status
<u>SB 346</u>	Innovations in Aging Services Program Commission on Aging - Responsibilities	Transfer the responsibilities of the IASP to the Commission on Aging	Kelley	F/V/H/S/O		SUPPORT	BILL PASSED
<u>SB 353</u>	Tax Credits for Qualifying Employees with Disabilities - Sunset Repeal	Extends the tax credit for employers who hire people with disabilities.	Currie	B&T		SUPPORT	NO COMMITTEE ACTION [similar SB 124 passed]
<u>SB 354</u>	Criminal Procedure - Vulnerable Adult Abuser Registry	Requires DPSCS establish and maintain online registry of individuals convicted of vulnerable adult abuse crimes.	Pugh	JPR	HB 54	MONITOR	WITHDRAWN
<u>SB 355</u>	Department of Health and Mental Hygiene - Health Care Facilities Office of Health Care Quality Abuser Registry <u>WORKING</u>	Establishes a registry of health care facility employees who were terminated for abusing or neglecting patients and prevents re-employment at another health care facility. <i>[As amended, the bill requires ODHG to reconvene a prior workgroup to further develop abuse and neglect in health care settings.]</i>	Pugh	F/V/H/S/O	HB 57	MONITOR	BILL PASSED
<u>SB 356</u>	Entrepreneur Business Development Program Study	Requires joint evaluation into feasibility of establishing a business development program for entrepreneurs.	Pugh	F/V/H/S/O	HB 698	SUPPORT	BILL PASSED
<u>SB 382</u>	Mental Health - Emergency Evaluations - Surrender of Firearms	Provides for police officers to seize firearms from individuals when transporting them for an evaluation in response to the filing of an emergency petition.	Brochin	JPR		OPPOSE	WITHDRAWN
<u>SB 442</u>	Residential Child Care Programs - Memorandum of Understanding	Requires residential child care programs enter into an MOU with the local community organization related to the behavior of participants in the program.	Gladden	JPR		OPPOSE	UNFAVORABLE
<u>SB 450</u>	Education Trust Fund - Security Personnel and Equipment and Mental Health Services	Authorizes slots proceeds credited to the Education Trust Fund to provide for security personnel and equipment and mental health services for public school students and their parents or guardians.	Anne Arundel County Senators	B&T		SUPPORT	NO COMMITTEE ACTION
<u>SB 479</u>	Criminal Procedure - Expungement of Records - Not Criminally Responsible	Allows person to file for expungement of finding of not criminally responsible for certain misdemeanor offenses.	Gladden	JPR	HB 854	SUPPORT	PASSED SENATE / NO HOUSE ACTION [Amended crossfile passed]
<u>SB 487</u>	Human Relations - Housing Discrimination - Source of Income	Prohibits landlords and sellers from discriminating against prospective tenants based on the source of their income.	Raskin	JPR	HB 603	SUPPORT	RECOMMENDED TO JPR
<u>SB 496</u>	Maryland Medical Assistance Program Telemedicine	Allows health care providers to be reimbursed for telemedicine services delivered to Medicare recipients.	Pugh	F/V/H/S/O	HB 991	MONITOR	BILL PASSED

Bill #	Name	Purpose	Sponsor	Committee	Crossfile	MHAMD Position	Bill Status
SB 556	Criminal Procedure - Persons Committed as Not Criminally Responsible - Release	Allows a court to hold a de novo hearing after an OAH decision to release a person found NCR. Currently the court only review the evidence from the OAH hearing.	Stone	JPR	HB 1112	OPPOSE	UNFAVORABLE
SB 571	Criminal Procedure - Certificate of Rehabilitation	Establishing a process by which a non-violent ex-offender may be issued a certificate indicating rehabilitation from previous criminal involvement.	Stank	JPR	HB 541	OPPOSE	NO COMMITTEE ACTION
SB 581	Health Insurance - Federal Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act - Continued Enforcement, Notice and Authorization for Forms	Requires insurers provide members with notice of their rights under the federal parity law and give access to documents that will enable them to invoke those rights. As amended requires carriers to provide members with notice of benefits required under parity. (Differences table, glossary, necessary forms, WAI's required, post-claim information, and/or complaint assistance.)	Kelly	FIN/AGO	HB 1216	SUPPORT	BILL PASSED
SB 582	Health Insurance - Federal Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act - Utilization Review Criteria and Standards	Provides the Maryland Insurers Agreement with the state on authority to ensure insurers' utilization review criteria is parity compliant.	Kelly	FIN/AGO	HB 1252	SUPPORT	BILL PASSED
SB 585	Health Insurance - Federal and State Mental Health and Addiction Parity Laws - Report on Compliance	Requires insurers submit annually a report demonstrating parity compliance.	Middleton	FIN	HB 1001	SUPPORT	NO COMMITTEE ACTION
SB 632	State Bar Injury Trust Fund	Establishes a special fund to provide certain services to eligible individuals who have sustained oral injuries.	KING	FIN & BQ/AGO	HB 61	SUPPORT	BILL PASSED
SB 679	Medical Jones Act and Related Research and Related Disorders Council	Creates authority to continue and expand on the work initiated by the Maryland Medical Research and Related Disorders Commission.	BUZBY	FIN/AGO	HB 680	SUPPORT	BILL PASSED
SB 691	Education - Due Process Hearings for Children with Disabilities - Burden of Proof	Places the burden of proof in IEP due process hearings on the school rather than the family.	Montgomery	EHE	HB 1286	SUPPORT	WITHDRAWN
SB 701	Criminal Records - Shielding - Nonviolent Misdemeanor Convictions	Allows for individuals to request that records related to nonviolent misdemeanors be shielded from public view three years following completion of sentence.	Jones-Rodwell	JPR	HB 1006	SUPPORT	PASSED SENATE / NO HOUSE ACTION
SB 745	Health Insurance - Step Therapy or Fail-First Protocol	Limits duration of insurer policies that establish a specific sequence in which prescription drugs are to be prescribed.	Middleton	FIN	HB 1015	SUPPORT WITH AMENDMENT	NO COMMITTEE ACTION
SB 764	Task Force to Study Housing and Supportive Services for Unaccompanied Homeless Youth	Establishes the task force to study the unique needs of this population, collect and evaluate data, and make legislative and funding recommendations.	Conway	EHE/APP	HB 825	SUPPORT	BILL PASSED

Bill #	Name	Purpose	Sponsor	Committee	Crossfile	MHAMID Position	Bill Status
<u>SB 776</u>	<u>Task Force on the Use of Technology to Improve Maryland Health Care</u> - <u>Interim Task Force</u> Maryland Health Care Commission	Establishes the task force to identify opportunities related to health, assess current factors, review and consider research, and make recommendations. <i>As amended, the bill expresses intent that MHCC continue to study technology through the Technology Task Force.</i>	Pugh	FIN/SGO	HB 934	MONITOR	BILL PASSED
<u>SB 790</u>	Department of Health and Mental Hygiene - <u>Advanced Directive Registry</u> - <u>Final Date of Operation</u>	Requires Secretary to set a fee to utilize the Registry and take steps necessary to make it operational by October 1, 2014.	Warner	FIN/SGO	HB 915	MONITOR	BILL PASSED
<u>SB 818</u>	Community Juvenile Services Program	Establishes the Program to reduce the number of Juvenile offenders committed to the Department of Juvenile Services by redirecting them to services in the community.	Frost	EHE		MONITOR	NO COMMITTEE ACTION
<u>SB 822</u>	Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder Safety Net Act of 2013	A variety of provisions aimed at addressing longstanding unmet need related to mental health and substance use disorders.	Madaleno	FIN	HB 1245	SUPPORT	NO COMMITTEE ACTION
<u>SB 939</u>	Juvenile Services - Group Homes and Institutions - <u>Notice Requirement</u>	Requires Department to provide notice to local law enforcement before contracting for a group home for children.	Muse	EHE/JUD	HB 1307	OPPOSE	PASSED SENATE / NO HOUSE ACTION
<u>SB 956</u>	State Government - Mental Health and Law Enforcement Advisory Board	Establishes the Board to make recommendations regarding creating a Maryland Criminal Justice and Behavioral Health State Technical Assistance Center.	Brinkley	FIN	HB 1377	SUPPORT WITH AMENDMENT	WITHDRAWN
<u>SB 972</u>	<u>Mental Hygiene Administration - Upper Shore Community Mental Health Center - Reopening and Maintenance Task Force to Evaluate Mental Health Care Delivery on the Eastern Shore</u>	Would reopen the Upper Shore Community Mental Health Center that was closed in 2010. <i>[Amendment strikes the bill and establishes a task force.]</i>	Pipkin	FIN	HB 1120	OPPOSE	PASSED SENATE / NO HOUSE ACTION
<u>SB 1040</u>	Mental Hygiene - Reform of Laws and Delivery of Services	Expands the manner in which individuals with mental illness may be involuntarily committed and medicated.	Garagiola	FIN	HB 1258	OPPOSE	PASSED SENATE / NO HOUSE ACTION
<u>SB 1086</u>	<u>Minority Business Enterprises - Not-for-Profit Entities</u>	Specifies that a not-for-profit entity organized to promote the interests of one or more mentally disabled individuals may be considered an MBE only if (1) its annual operating budget does not exceed \$1.5 million; and (2) a majority of the members of its board are socially and economically disadvantaged individuals.	Pugh	EHE	HB 18	MONITOR	BILL PASSED