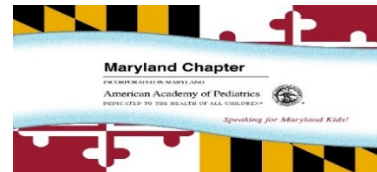




The Maryland State Medical Society
1211 Cathedral Street
Baltimore, MD 21201-5516
410.539.0872
Fax: 410.547.0915
1.800.492.1056
www.medchi.org



TO: The Honorable Shane E. Pendergrass, Chair
Members, House Health and Government Operations Committee
The Honorable Mark N. Fisher

FROM: Pamela Metz Kasemeyer
J. Steven Wise
Danna L. Kauffman
Christine K. Krone

DATE: March 14, 2022

RE: **OPPOSE** – House Bill 1189 – *Public Health – Vaccines Administered Under
Emergency Use Authorization – Reporting of Adverse Events*

On behalf of the Maryland State Medical Society and the Maryland Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics, we submit this letter of **opposition** for House Bill 1189.

House Bill 1189 requires a health care provider to report to the National Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting Administration (VAERS) administered by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and the U.S. Food and Drug Administration an adverse reaction observed after the administration of a vaccine including COVID-19 vaccines. House Bill 1189 is unnecessary as health care providers are already required to report to VAERS. More important however, House Bill 1189 would create conflicts with federal reporting requirements and undermine the purpose and benefits of the VAERS system. The VAERS reporting requirements are comprehensive and there is detailed guidance and direction associated with the federal requirements. The definition of adverse event in House Bill 1189 is very general and its interpretation will lead to inconsistencies with existing federal reporting requirements. An unfavorable report is requested.

For more information call:

Pamela Metz Kasemeyer
J. Steven Wise
Danna L. Kauffman
Christine K. Krone
410-244-7000