

January 29, 2019

Howard County Council  
3430 Court House Dr.  
Ellicott City, MD 21043  
Attn: Jennifer Sager

Dear Council Members:

Howard County Code Bill No. 13-2018 created the Local Behavioral Health Advisory Board (the Board). The Board has been drafting its bylaws and has identified two technical revisions to the Howard County code that deals with the Board. These changes are included in CB7-2019.

The first change concerns the ex officio members of the Board. All ten ex officio members except the Administrator of the Office on Aging and Independence, Department of Community Resources and Services can assign a designee to the Board. We believe that this is an oversight.

The second change concerns the quorum for voting on the Board. The Board has 28 members and the quorum is set at fifteen in the Howard County code. Since it is possible that there will be vacancies on the Board, for example, there are currently five vacancies, we recommend that the quorum be changed to a majority of members.

Thank you very much for considering these revisions.

Sincerely,



James Filipczak, Local Behavioral Health Advisory Board Chairperson



Janet Edelman, Local Behavioral Health Advisory Board Secretary



Roe Rodgers-Bonaccorsy, Bureau Director, Bureau Behavioral Health, Local Behavioral Health Authority