

February 2022



# The Connection

## Legislative Newsletter



**ERIC  
EBERSOLE**  
MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES  
DISTRICT 12

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## Session is underway

The 2022 legislative session is well underway! I am honored to continue to represent you in Annapolis as your State Delegate.

This session we are working hard to improve the lives of people in our district and across Maryland! I have outlined some of the specific pieces of legislation I am working on below, along with information about the district scholarship for students and contact information for myself.



I encourage you to contact me about anything that I can support you with. I am always happy to help my constituents.

Best,  
Eric Ebersole

# Session's Legislative Priorities

## Human Trafficking (HB270):



One of the biggest priorities for me this session is to pass [HB0270](#), which requires innkeepers to provide training to their staff to identify signs of human trafficking.

Human trafficking is a horrific issue that is more prevalent in our communities than most people think. Requiring people who work in hotels, motels, and similar businesses to be trained in identification of human trafficking is crucial in stopping these crimes.

Human traffickers often use inns to fly under the radar and to support their illegal operations, so having employees be able to recognize and report suspected traffickers is key in the fight against trafficking. This bill requires that inns keep electronic records of their guests and that they provide this training to employees, greatly aiding law enforcement in identifying this illegal activity. It will no doubt make our community a safer place and save countless individuals from exploitation and violence.

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## Mobility (HB726)

To better promote accessibility for elderly and disabled individuals in the district, I will be proposing [HB0726](#) to provide the opportunity for MTA Mobility to work with outside contractors, like Uber and Lyft.

Better enabling elderly and disabled individuals to access transportation is a must for me, as I know it can be challenging for these groups to rely on family and friends to transport them all of the time. Passing this bill will expand the opportunities of people in our district and across Maryland to successfully use transportation services, no matter where they live or need to go.



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## Early Childhood Mental Health Expansion (HB0513)

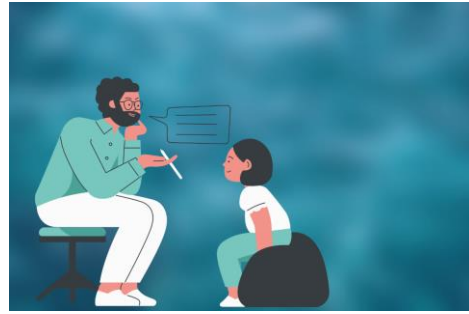


An exciting initiative that I am working on is aimed at expanding efforts to promote better early childhood mental health in [HB0513](#).

This expansion will create the Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation Program, which increases governmental support given to young children, their families, teachers, and caregivers.

This program will increase access to mental health services for those groups and require the Governor to include \$6,000,000 in funding for the program in his annual budget. We will be improving the lives of young children and their families by providing the proper supportive resources at a key stage of development in their lives.

## School Psychologist Retention (HB1231)



I'm also working on [HB1231](#) this session, which promotes better retention of psychologists in schools to support the mental health of our district's children.

Still feeling the effects of the pandemic on mental health, young students have had to make major adjustments to their lives in the past few years. Now more than ever they need a proper support system in school to help them deal with the stressful experiences in their lives.

This bill will do just that by working with the State Department of Education to help formulate a plan to incentivize our mental health professionals to stay in their positions in schools longer and give them the tools to make a real difference for children.

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# District Scholarship

## Scholarship Applications

Our office is currently accepting scholarship applications for high school students. If you are planning on attending a Maryland college or university, I encourage you to apply for this opportunity. The deadline for application submissions is **April 1st**. Additional requirements and the application itself can be found [here](#). Please contact my office with any questions or concerns about the scholarship



## Let Me Hear From You!

### An Honor to Serve

Thank you in advance for following our efforts this session and continuing to place your trust in me to serve the constituents in District 12 and the whole State of Maryland. My team is intensely focused on providing constituent support as we work through the COVID-19 pandemic and beyond. If there is anything we can do to help you, please do not hesitate to contact my office via email or phone. You will get a prompt response.

Contact me  
at: [eric.ebersole@house.state.md.us](mailto:eric.ebersole@house.state.md.us)  
or 410-841-3328



*Eric D. Ebersole*

## Committee Assignments and Leadership Roles

- **Ways and Means**
- **Deputy Majority Whip**
- **Chair- Early Childhood Subcommittee- Ways and Means**
- **Education Subcommittee - Ways and Means**
- **Chair - Education Subcommittee - Balt, Co. Delegation**
- **Joint Committee on Children, Youth & Families**
- **House of Delegates Representative to Education Commission of the States, Professional Standards for Teacher Education Board, and State Interagency Coordinating Council**
- **Advisory Board - MD Center for School Safety**
- **Advisory Board - Visit Howard County**
- **Community Leadership Board - Catonsville Y**

