



**Danna E. Mauch, PhD**  
President and CEO

**Ambassador (ret.) Barry B. White**  
Chairperson of MAMH Board of Directors

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August 2, 2022

The Honorable Karen Spilka  
President, MA Senate  
24 Beacon Street, Room 212  
Boston, MA 02133

The Honorable Ronald Mariano  
Speaker, MA House of Representatives  
24 Beacon Street, Room 356  
Boston, MA 02133

The Honorable Julian Cyr  
Chair, Joint Committee on Mental Health,  
Substance Use and Recovery  
24 Beacon Street, Room 312-E  
Boston, MA 02133

The Honorable Adrian Madaro  
Chair, Joint Committee on Mental Health,  
Substance Use and Recovery  
24 Beacon Street, Room 33  
Boston, MA 02133

The Honorable Cindy Friedman  
MA Senate  
24 Beacon Street, Room 208  
Boston, MA 02133

The Honorable Denise Garlick  
MA House of Representatives  
24 Beacon Street, Room 448  
Boston, MA 02133

The Honorable Bruce Tarr  
MA Senate  
24 Beacon Street, Room 308  
Boston, MA 02133

The Honorable Hannah Kane  
MA House of Representatives  
24 Beacon Street, Room 167  
Boston, MA 02133

Dear President Spilka, Speaker Mariano, Senator Cyr, Representative Madaro, Senator Friedman, Representative Garlick, Senator Tarr, and Representative Kane:

On behalf of the Massachusetts Association for Mental Health (MAMH), I write to thank you for your critical leadership and exhaustive efforts to craft and pass the Mental Health Omnibus Bill. We feel certain that this legislation will touch every individual and family in the Commonwealth by improving access to behavioral health care.

I appreciate your accessibility to MAMH throughout this process and note particularly the efforts of your extraordinary staff members with whom we worked collaboratively. The result is a bill that is both expansive and effective.

This is a landmark achievement. The bill tackles longstanding, intractable problems within the behavioral health care system such as gaps in mental health insurance coverage, parity enforcement limitations, and emergency department boarding. It also codifies innovative and progressive ideas about mental health care, including alternatives to police response through the 988 crisis line, prevention and promotion activities, and school-based mental health services to encourage inclusion and educational success. These are just a few of the many significant provisions of this bill.

As we look forward to providing education about the bill and assisting in implementation, we hope that you will continue to view MAMH as a resource in your important work.

With deep gratitude,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Danna Mauch". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Danna Mauch, PhD  
President and CEO

c: Joseph Masciangioli, Colby Dillon, William Phelan, Jonah Beckley, Steven Gingras, Gloribel Rivas, Jessica Bresler, Amanda Graff, Collin Fedor, Isabel Lane, Philip Lynch, Anna Darrow, Sophia Flionis, Elizabeth Ganz, Jeffrey Soares, Elizabeth Berman, David Swanson, Fatou Sidibe, Attilio Paglia, Hiram Shah