



June 4, 2024

The Honorable Adam Mathews
State Representative
House Public Health Policy Committee

RE: House Bill 452 – Hospital Violence Prevention Plans

Dear Chairman Mathews, Vice Chair Stewart, Ranking Member Liston, and esteemed members of the House Public Health Policy Committee:

On behalf of the Emergency Department Practice Management Association (EDPMA), I am writing to express strong support for House Bill 452, which focuses on the creation of hospital violence prevention plans, training, and incident reporting. This critical piece of legislation is paramount in ensuring the safety and well-being of emergency department physicians and other ER staff who encounter potentially dangerous situations in their line of duty.

EDPMA's membership includes emergency medicine physician groups of all ownership models and sizes, as well as billing, coding, and other professional support organizations that assist healthcare providers in our nation's emergency departments. Together, EDPMA's members deliver or directly support health care for about half of the 146 million patients that visit U.S. emergency departments each year.

Violence in healthcare settings has become an increasingly concerning issue, and it is imperative that steps are taken to protect those on the front lines of patient care. By requiring hospitals to develop comprehensive violence prevention plans, provide necessary training to staff, and establish clear incident reporting protocols, House Bill 452 serves as a crucial measure in safeguarding the dedicated healthcare professionals who work tirelessly to save lives in our emergency departments.

The implementation of this bill will not only enhance the safety of healthcare workers but also contribute to a more secure and supportive environment for both staff and patients. I wholeheartedly urge you to support House Bill 452 and prioritize the well-being of our healthcare workforce by ensuring its swift passage.

Thank you for your attention to this vital issue, and for your ongoing commitment to promoting a safer healthcare system for all.

Sincerely,

Andrea Brault

Andrea Brault, MD, MMM, FACEP
Chair
Emergency Department Practice Management Association