

2022 COMMISSION

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Statewide Advisory Commission on Immunizations

The Honorable Wes Moore Governor 100 State Circle Annapolis, MD 21401

The Honorable Pamela Beidle Chair, Finance Committee 3 East, Miller Senate Office Building Annapolis, MD 21401

The Honorable Joseline A. Peña-Melnyk Chair, Health and Government Operations Committee Room 241, House Office Building Annapolis, MD 21401

Re: Report required by Health-General Article §18-214(m) the Statewide Advisory Commission on Immunizations Annual Report (MSAR #8248)

Dear Governor Moore, Chair Beidle, and Chair Peña-Melnyk:

In accordance with Health-General Article §18-214(k), the Statewide Advisory Commission on Immunizations (the Commission) is submitting this annual report to the Senate Finance Committee and the House Health and Government Operations Committee. The Commission is charged with determining where community vaccine shortages exist, developing recommendations for equitable distribution of vaccines, making recommendations for how to increase immunizations, and studying and making recommendations about other vaccine-related issues.

In April of 2022, Dr. Monique Soileau-Burke accepted the position of Chair of the Statewide Advisory Commission on Immunization. Shortly after accepting the position as Chair, Dr. Burke scheduled the first meeting of 2022. The Commission held one meeting in July and is scheduled to meet again in early December. The Commission is in the process of a transition with a new Chair and two new members. Goals of the Commission for the upcoming year include increasing outreach, including collaboration with other Maryland entities to formally issue recommendations aimed at increasing vaccine uptake.

The Commission continues to discuss how to utilize its standing to impact community education and uptake of vaccinations. Though not directly part of the Department's day-to-day COVID-19 vaccination operations, the Commission

reviewed the State's response to COVID-19, individually and collectively supported and encouraged COVID-19 vaccination, and continues to hold discussions on addressing hesitancy to COVID-19 vaccine.

This letter serves as the Commission's annual report for Calendar Year 2022. If you have any questions, please contact the Commission staff person, Elizabeth Edwards at elizabeth.edwards@maryland.gov.

Sincerely,

Monique Solleau-Burke, MD, IBCLC, FAAP

Chair, State Advisory Commission on Immunizations

https://health.maryland.gov/taskforces/pages/immunizations.aspx

cc: Marie Grant, JD, Assistant Secretary for Health Policy, Office of the Secretary Sarah Case-Herron, JD, Director, Office of Governmental Affairs
Nilesh Kalyanaraman, MD, FACP, Deputy Secretary, Public Health Services
Elizabeth Kromm, PhD, MSc, Director, Prevention and Health Promotion Administration

David Blythe, MD, MPH, Director, Infectious Disease Epidemiology and Outbreak Response Bureau

Sarah T. Albert, Department of Legislative (5 copies)