



*Keeping You Connected...Expanding Your Potential...
In Senior Care and Services*

TO: The Honorable Paul G. Pinsky, Chair
Members, Senate Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee
The Honorable Chris West

FROM: Danna L. Kauffman
Pamela Metz Kasemeyer
Richard A. Tabuteau

DATE: January 22, 2020

RE: **SUPPORT** – Senate Bill 22 – *Election Law – Polling Places at Continuing Care Retirement Communities*

On behalf of the LifeSpan Network, the largest and most diverse senior care provider association in Maryland representing nursing facilities, assisted living providers, continuing care retirement communities, medical adult day care centers, senior housing communities and other home and community based services, we **support** Senate Bill 22.

This bill requires that a separate precinct be established in a continuing care retirement community (CCRC) if the CCRC requests that a polling place be established on the community premises. It is important to note that this bill is limited in scope to when a CCRC requests to be a polling place. It does not mandate that every CCRC be a polling place. While the State has made great strides in early and absentee voting policies, the ability to physically cast a vote on Election Day is a right that many seniors can no longer exercise due to transportation or mobility issues. Senate Bill 22 addresses this issue by requiring the Board of Elections to establish a polling place at a CCRC upon the request and cooperation of the CCRC, ensuring greater access for seniors to be able to vote. We urge a favorable report.

For more information call:

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