



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

TO: The Honorable Shane E. Pendergrass, Chair
Members, House Health and Government Operations Committee

FROM: Danna L. Kauffman
Pamela Metz Kasemeyer
J. Steven Wise

DATE: March 2, 2021

RE: **SUPPORT with AMENDMENT** – House Bill 1022 – *Public Health - State Designated Exchange - Clinical Information*

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 with amendment** House Bill 1022.

Among other provisions, House Bill 1022 requires nursing homes to submit information, at the request of the Maryland Department of Health, to the State’s Health Information Exchange (i.e., CRISP) for the purposes of facilitating a State health improvement program, mitigation of a public health emergency, and improvement of patient safety. Under the bill, CRISP will then have the authority for consolidating reporting of industry information.

LifeSpan understands the need to develop a cohesive public policy that advances the coordination of care across the continuum and works to meet Maryland’s goals under the Total Cost of Care model. House Bill 1022 marks the first step in establishing the infrastructure that can be built upon to meet the purposes of improving quality of care and responding to public health emergencies. However, while we support House Bill 1022, we also want to ensure that the information reported is only used to support the goals articulated in the bill and is not used for other purposes. Therefore, we support amendments to clarify that the data may only be used for those purposes. With this clarification, we urge a favorable vote.

For more information call:

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