April 3, 2020

To the Members of the General Assembly

Ladies and Gentlemen:

On April 3, 2020, the Honorable Lawrence J. Hogan, Jr., Governor; the Honorable Bill Ferguson, President of the Senate; and the Honorable Adrienne A. Jones, Speaker of the House of Delegates, signed the following pieces of legislation, which you passed:

**HB 448**
Delegate Rosenberg, et al
**Chapter 15**
**HEALTH CARE PRACTITIONERS – TELEHEALTH AND SHORTAGE**

Authorizing certain health care practitioners to establish a practitioner–patient relationship through telehealth interactions; requiring a health care practitioner providing telehealth services to be held to the same standards of practice that are applicable to in-person settings and, if clinically appropriate, provide or refer a patient for in-patient services or another type of telehealth service; prohibiting a health care practitioner from prescribing a certain opiate through telehealth except under certain circumstances; etc.

**EMERGENCY BILL**

**SB 402**
Senators Kagan and Lam
**Chapter 16**
**HEALTH CARE PRACTITIONERS – TELEHEALTH AND SHORTAGE**

Authorizing certain health care practitioners to establish a practitioner–patient relationship through certain telehealth interactions under certain circumstances; requiring a health care practitioner providing telehealth services to be held to the same standards of practice that are applicable to in-person settings and, if clinically appropriate, provide or refer a patient for in–patient services or another type of telehealth service; requiring a health care practitioner to perform a certain evaluation; etc.

**EMERGENCY BILL**
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**HB 1208**  
Chapter 17  
Delegate Shetty, et al

**TELEHEALTH – MENTAL HEALTH AND CHRONIC CONDITION MANAGEMENT SERVICES – COVERAGE AND PILOT PROGRAM**

Requiring the Maryland Medical Assistance Program, subject to a certain limitation, to provide mental health services appropriately delivered through telehealth to a patient in the patient’s home setting; requiring the Maryland Department of Health to apply, on or before December 1, 2020, to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services for an amendment to certain waivers to implement a pilot program to provide certain telehealth services to recipients under the Maryland Medical Assistance Program; etc.  
EMERGENCY BILL

**SB 502**  
Chapter 18  
Senators Hershey and Ferguson

**TELEHEALTH – MENTAL HEALTH AND CHRONIC CONDITION MANAGEMENT SERVICES – COVERAGE AND PILOT PROGRAM**

Requiring the Maryland Medical Assistance Program to provide, subject to a certain limitation, mental health services appropriately delivered through telehealth to a patient in the patient’s home setting; altering the definition of telehealth as it applies to certain entities; requiring the Maryland Department of Health to apply to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services for an amendment to certain waivers to implement a pilot program to provide telehealth services under the Maryland Medical Assistance Program; etc.  
EMERGENCY BILL

Sincerely,

Victoria L. Gruber  
Executive Director