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January 15, 2020

The Honorable Delores Kelley, Chair
Senate Finance Committee
3 East Miller Senate Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

Re: SUPPORT - Senate Bill 42 – Health Services Cost Review Commission – Duties and Reports – Revisions

Dear Senator Kelley:

CareFirst BlueCross BlueShield (“CareFirst”) supports Senate Bill 42, “Health Services Cost Review Commission – Duties and Reports – Revisions.” The changes in this departmental bill align the Commission’s duties with Maryland’s Total Cost of Care Model, which took effect January 1, 2019. We are supportive of the new Model as well as the changes in this bill.

One of the changes made in the bill is to strike a requirement that the Commission publish an annual report with each acute care hospital’s severity-adjusted average charge per case for the 15 most 4 common inpatient diagnosis-related groups. We believe this report contains valuable information for Maryland consumers, but understand that the Maryland Health Care Commission is currently publishing the report and will continue to do so.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Deborah R. Rivkin".

Deborah R. Rivkin

Cc: Members, Senate Finance Committee