



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Larry Hogan, Governor · Boyd K. Rutherford, Lt. Governor · Robert R. Neall, Secretary

February 18, 2020

The Honorable Shane E. Pendergrass, Chair
Health and Government Operations Committee
Room 241, House Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

RE: Letter of Support with Amendments - HB 512 - Drugs and Devices - Electronic Prescriptions - Controlled Dangerous Substances

Dear Chair Pendergrass and Committee Members:


The Maryland Department of Health (MDH) submits this letter of support with amendments for HB 512 - Drugs and Devices - Electronic Prescriptions - Controlled Dangerous Substances. This bill is very similar to MDH’s departmental bill, House Bill 692 - Drugs and Devices - Electronic Prescriptions - Controlled Dangerous Substances. MDH respectfully requests that the Committee conform this bill to HB 692. MDH worked closely with Delegate Barron, HB 512’s sponsor, and stakeholders to rework the electronic prescriptions bill from last session and come to a consensus. Below is a chart outlining the differences between HB 512, HB 692, and SB 166

| Differences in the Bills | SB166 | HB512 | HB692 |
|--------------------------|---|---|---|
| CR 5-101 | Not incorporated | Defines “electronic prescribing” | Defines “electronic prescribing” with more detail. |
| HG 21-220(E) | Health Occupations “ shall ” take action | Health Occupations “ may ” take action | Health Occupations “ may ” take action |
| HG 21-220(b)(1) | Not incorporated | Adds language “or made through an electronic prescription” | Not incorporated |
| HG 21-220(c) | Not incorporated | Not incorporated | Adds incarcerated individuals |
| HG 21-220 | Not incorporated | Defines “electronic prescribing” | Defines “electronic prescribing” |
| Work Group | Requires a work group | Not incorporated | Not incorporated |

MDH remains committed to developing a bill that is acceptable to all parties involved. As such, MDH respectfully supports the intent of HB 512 but requests that the Committee conforms this bill to HB692.

If you have additional questions, please contact the Director of Governmental Affairs, Webster Ye, at (410) 260-3190 or webster.ye@maryland.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Robert R. Neall", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Robert R. Neall
Secretary