



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

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

MARYLAND BOARD OF PHARMACY

4201 Patterson Avenue, Baltimore, Maryland 21215-2299

Kevin M. Morgan, Board President | Deena Speights-Napata, Executive Director

February 27, 2020

The Honorable Delegate Shane E. Pendergrass, Chair
Health and Government Operations Committee
Room 241, House Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401-1991

RE: House Bill 785 – Health Insurance and Pharmacy Benefits Managers – Freedom of Choice of Pharmacy Act – Letter of Support

Dear Chair Pendergrass:

The Maryland Board of Pharmacy (Board) respectfully submits this letter of support for House Bill 785 – Health Insurance and Pharmacy Benefits Managers – Freedom of Choice of Pharmacy Act.

House Bill 785 prohibits conduct by insurance carriers and pharmacy benefits managers that would impede patient choice of pharmacy and access to care. The Board believes that patient choice of pharmacy and increased access to care promotes quality health care in the field of pharmacy, a key tenet of the Board's mission. The Board of Pharmacy thus supports this bill.

I hope this information is useful. If you would like to discuss this further, please contact me at 410-764-4753 or deena.speights-napata@maryland.gov.

Sincerely,

Deena Speights-Napata, M.A.
Executive Director
Maryland Board of Pharmacy