



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Larry Hogan, Governor · Boyd K. Rutherford, Lt. Governor · Dennis R. Schrader, Secretary

February 22, 2022

The Honorable Maggie McIntosh
Chair, House Appropriations Committee
Room 121 House Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401- 1991

RE: HB 417 - Employees' Retirement and Pension Systems – Reemployment Earnings Limitation – COVID-19 Exemption - Letter of Support with Amendments

Dear Chair McIntosh and Committee Members:

The Maryland Department of Health (MDH) respectfully submits this letter of support with amendments on House Bill (HB) 417 - Employee's Retirement and Pension Systems - Reemployment Earnings Limitation - COVID-19 Exemption. HB 417 seeks to exempt certain retirees of the Employees' Retirement and Pension Systems from a certain earnings limitation when the retiree is reemployed by certain previous employers for a certain time period to assist with the administration of 6 certain grants or benefits related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

MDH supports this legislation with two friendly amendments that are technical in nature to appropriately capture all retired state employees who returned to state service at MDH and played an integral role in the COVID-19 response.

MDH respectfully requests a favorable report on HB 417 with the proposed amendments. If you have any questions, please contact Heather Shek, Director of Governmental Affairs, at heather.shek@maryland.gov or (443) 695-4218.

Sincerely,

Dennis R. Schrader
Secretary

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 1, in line 16 and 17, strike “**MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH**” and substitute “**STATE OF MARYLAND,**”.

AMENDMENT NO. 2

On page 1, in line 18 after “**FEDERALLY FUNDED GRANTS**” insert “**OR OTHER DUTIES**”.