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STATE OF MARYLAND
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
CONSUMER PROTECTION DIVISION

March 7, 2022

To: The Honorable Shane E. Pendergrass
Chair, Health and Government Operations Committee

From: The Office of the Attorney General's Health Education and Advocacy Unit

Re: House Bill 1082 (Public Health – Consumer Health Information – Hub and
Requirements): Support

The Office of the Attorney General's Health Education and Advocacy Unit (HEAU) supports House Bill 1082. The programs established and supported by the bill would promote the use of plain language and health literacy best practices by state and local agencies; Maryland's hospitals and health systems; and non-profit and community-based organizations. The HEAU works every day with consumers who cannot understand their health insurance coverage or hospital bills, and countless other health related issues, without assistance. We support the bill's goals of promoting effective communication to improve health outcomes and lower costs for individuals, communities and the health care system.

We ask the committee to give the bill a favorable report.

cc: Delegate Pena-Melnyk, Sponsor