



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Wes Moore, Governor · Aruna Miller, Lt. Governor · Laura Herrera Scott, M.D., M.P.H., Secretary

February 1, 2024

The Honorable Marc Korman
Chair, Environment and Transportation Committee
Room 251, House Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401-1991

RE: House Bill 161 – Vehicle Laws Driver’s Licenses, Learner’s Instructional Permits, and Identification Cards – Letter of Support

Dear Chair Korman and Committee Members:

The Maryland Department of Health (MDH) respectfully submits this letter of Support for House Bill (HB) 161 – Vehicle Laws - Driver’s Licenses, Learner’s Instructional Permits, and Identification Cards.

HB 161 will be crucial to the Maryland Department of Health’s (MDH) Healthcare System’s efforts to provide its patients with identification cards upon discharge. Specifically, this legislation will waive the \$20.00 (twenty-dollar) identification card fee for individuals who present documentation showing that they are currently under the care of MDH.

Operationally, this bill will make it easier for our patients to obtain a community discharge placement where providers require state identification cards and insurance cards. The MDH Healthcare System believes that by waiving the identification card fee, it will be able to provide patients with identification cards at a greater pace, helping to lower the waitlist for admission and provide a timely and uncomplicated discharge process. HB 161 will help to make community discharges a timely process.

The MDH Healthcare System urges a favorable vote on HB 161 – Vehicle Laws – Driver’s Licenses, Learner’s Instructional Permits, and Identification Cards.

I appreciate your consideration of this matter. If you would like to discuss this further, please contact Sarah Case-Herron, Director of Governmental Affairs, at sarah.case-herron@maryland.gov

Sincerely,

Laura Herrera Scott, M.D., M.P.H.
Secretary