



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

March 21, 2024

The Honorable Pamela Beidle
Chair, Senate Finance Committee
3 East Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

RE: HB 1009 Public Health – Federally Qualified Health Centers Grant Program – Recovery of Funding – Letter of Support as Amended

Dear Chair Beidle and Committee Members:

The Maryland Department of Health (Department) respectfully submits this letter of support as amended for House Bill (HB) 1009 - Public Health – Federally Qualified Health Centers Grant Program – Recovery of Funding. HB 1009 will amend the State’s right of recovery on the property for Capital Grant Projects involving Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs) from 30 years to 15 years after the completion of a project which the State may then recover funding under certain circumstances.

The Department is grateful for the opportunity to collaborate with the sponsors on the amendments to this bill. Specifically, the amendments will maintain the 30 year right of recovery for real property which is owned by a FQHC. It will also reduce the right of recovery from 30 years to 15 years for property that is leased by a FQHC and is sold or transferred to an individual or entity that is not qualified as an applicant, or not approved as a transferee by the Board of Public Works. The Department believes that providing a 30 year right of recovery for properties owned by a FQHC, and 15 years for properties that are leased, can ensure the continuity of these critical services provided by the Program. 15 years is consistent with industry standards for leases. The Department supports HB1009 as amended and urges a favorable report.

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