



Hospice & Palliative Care Network  
OF MARYLAND

To: The Honorable Joseline A. Pena-Melnyk, Chair  
Members, House Health and Government Operations Committee  
The Honorable Ashanti Martinez

From: Danna L. Kauffman  
Pamela Metz Kasemeyer  
J. Steven Wise

DATE: February 7, 2024

RE: **SUPPORT** – House Bill 461 – *Health – State Advisory Council on Quality Care at the End of Life – Renaming*

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On behalf of the Hospice & Palliative Care Network of Maryland (HPCNM), we **support** House Bill 461, which renames the State Advisory Council on Quality Care at the End of Life to be the State Advisory Council on Serious Illness Care. The HPCNM actively participates on the State Advisory Council. The State Advisory Council often considers the care of seriously ill patients, not just the care given at the end of life. Given the breadth of the issues being examined by the State Advisory Council, including how Maryland can expand access to palliative care, a name change is not only appropriate but needed to better reflect the Council's direction and mission. The HPCNM urges a favorable vote.

**For more information call:**

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