

March 27, 2024

The Honorable Josaline Peña-Melnyk Chair, House Health and Government Operations Committee Room 241, House Office Building Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: Senate Bill 1103 - Hospitals and Related Institutions - Outpatient Facility Fees – Letter of Support as Amended

Dear Chair Peña-Melnyk and Committee Members:

The Health Services Cost Review Commission (HSCRC) respectfully submits this Letter of Support on Senate Bill 1103, "Hospitals and Related Institutions - Outpatient Facility Fees" as amended by the Senate. HSCRC's support is focused on the study portion of the bill.

HSCRC is committed to conducting the study required by SB 1103. The requirements of this study are complicated and will require substantial analytical and research skills and resources. HSCRC is grateful for the Senate's amendment to add procurement flexibilities to allow HSCRC to to quickly acquire resources to support HSCRC staff in this work. This accelerated procurement process will allow for a more thorough study.

Joshua Sharfstein, MD Chairman

Joseph Antos, PhD Vice-Chairman

James N. Elliott, MD

Ricardo R. Johnson

Maulik Joshi, DrPH

Adam Kane, Esq

Nicki McCann, JD

Jonathan Kromm, PhD Executive Director

William Henderson Director Medical Economics & Data Analytics

Allan Pack Director Population-Based Methodologies

Gerard J. Schmith Director Revenue & Regulation Compliance

Claudine Williams Director Healthcare Data Management & Integrity

The recommendations resulting from this study will inform effective policy making that benefits consumers in the future.

The Commission urges a favorable report on SB 1103. If you have any questions or if I may provide you with any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me at 410-991-7422 or <u>deborah.rivkin@maryland.gov</u>, or Jon Kromm, Executive Director, at <u>jon.kromm@maryland.gov</u>.

Sincerely,

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Deborah Rivkin Director, Government Affairs

 The Health Services Cost Review Commission is an independent agency of the State of Maryland

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