



*Keeping You Connected...Expanding Your Potential...
In Senior Care and Services*

TO: The Honorable Joseline A. Pena-Melnyk, Chair
Members, House Health and Government Operations Committee
The Honorable Cheryl E. Pasteur

FROM: Danna L. Kauffman
Pamela Metz Kasemeyer
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DATE: March 7, 2024

RE: **SUPPORT WITH AMENDMENT** – House Bill 1263 – *Assisted Living Programs – Assisted Living Referrers – Requirements and Prohibitions*

On behalf of the LifeSpan Network, the largest and most diverse senior care provider association in Maryland representing nursing facilities, assisted living providers, continuing care retirement communities (CCRCs), medical adult day care centers, senior housing communities, and other home and community-based services, we **support** House Bill 1263. This bill establishes additional requirements for assisted living referrers.

LifeSpan believes that House Bill 1263 is a consumer protection bill that will further increase quality in the assisted living industry and provide greater protections for individuals seeking care through an assisted living program. We respectfully request two amendments.

First, LifeSpan is concerned that requiring all three persons (referrer, program, and prospective resident) to be present at a tour could potentially slow the process for the prospective resident and would request that the provision be amended to be: “(2) A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE ASSISTED LIVING REFERRER SHOULD USE BEST EFFORTS TO BE PRESENT DURING THE TOUR REQUIRED UNDER PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION.”

Second, Lifespan recommends striking the last clause in this provision given that the database is publicly accessible on the Office of Health Care Quality’s website - (F) THE OFFICE OF HEALTH CARE QUALITY SHALL MAINTAIN A USER-FRIENDLY DATABASE OF LICENSED ASSISTED LIVING PROGRAMS AND ~~14 ENSURE THAT EACH ASSISTED LIVING REFERRER HAS ACCESS TO THE DATABASE.~~

With these amendments, we request a favorable vote.