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## STATE OF MARYLAND OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL CONSUMER PROTECTION DIVISION HEALTH EDUCATION AND ADVOCACY UNIT

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March 24, 2025

TO: The Honorable Pamela Beidle, Chair

Senate Finance Committee

FROM: Irnise F. Williams, Deputy Director, Health Education and Advocacy Unit

RE: House Bill 1292- Health Insurance - Provider Directory - Required Updates-

**SUPPORT** 

The Health Education and Advocacy Unit (HEAU) supports House Bill 1292 as amended. This bill would require carriers, excepting stand-alone dental plans, to update their online provider directories within two working days of any notification of any change in the applicable information from the provider/facility. This change would align state law with the No Surprises Act (NSA).

Reliable provider directories protect consumers and eliminate unnecessary billing issues. Accurate provider directories facilitate patient access to care and prevent surprise billing due to outdated information by providing reliable details about in-network providers, including their current contact information and practice locations; outdated information can lead to confusion, delays in care, and potential financial burdens for patients.

We urge a favorable report.