

March 9, 2026

The Honorable Ben Barnes, Chair
Maryland House of Delegates
House Appropriations Committee
120 House Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

RE: Support for HB 1540 – University of Maryland Capital Region Medical Center – Funding – Repeal of Termination Date

Dear Chair Barnes and Members of the Committee:

On behalf of the University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB), I am pleased to submit this testimony in strong support of House Bill 1540, which repeals the termination date for the requirement that the Governor include \$10 million annually in the State budget for the University of Maryland Capital Region Medical Center. This bill ensures the continuation of essential, long-term operating support for a critical health institution serving Prince George's County and the broader region.

Beyond its vital role as a healthcare provider, the Capital Region Medical Center serves as a critical academic training site for UMB, directly supporting the educational and clinical mission of the University of Maryland School of Medicine and several other UMB programs that rely on the Medical Center to help prepare Maryland's future healthcare workforce. Each year, Capital Region serves as a core training site for UMB learners across multiple disciplines. The School of Medicine places four medical students per academic block in OB/GYN rotations - totaling twenty-four students annually - who complete their required women's health training there. The Department of Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation Science also sends two to four doctoral students each year for essential clinical rotations. Students from the UMB School of Nursing and UMB-affiliated physician assistant programs likewise complete key clinical rotations at Capital Region, further strengthening the interprofessional training environment that supports Maryland's workforce pipeline. In addition, Capital Region hosts a broad range of UMB residents and fellows who rely on the Medical Center for high-quality, hands-on experience, including trainees in Limb Preservation and Deformity Correction, Medical Physics, Neuroradiology, Orthopaedic Surgery and Orthopaedic Trauma, Radiation Oncology, the Integrated Vascular Surgery residency, Family and Community Medicine, Abdominal Transplant Surgery, and the Vascular Surgery fellowship. Together, these educational partnerships demonstrate how

deeply UMB's academic enterprise is intertwined with Capital Region's ongoing operational strength, and how essential sustained funding is to maintaining Maryland's healthcare workforce pipeline.

These placements are essential to ensuring that Maryland continues to produce well-trained physicians, surgeons, therapists, and specialists prepared to serve our communities. Capital Region offers a high-acuity, high-need environment where trainees gain deep experience in trauma, women's health, emergency medicine, cancer care, and chronic disease management - skills that benefit the entire state.

HB 1540 repeals the scheduled end of the annual \$10 million appropriation, thereby preserving financial stability for the Medical Center as it continues to expand services and meet community needs. This long-term stability:

- Supports the continuation of academic and clinical training programs fundamental to UMB's mission;
- Ensures access to high-quality inpatient and specialty care for Prince George's County residents;
- Protects the state's significant capital investment in a modern regional medical center; and
- Strengthens Maryland's healthcare workforce pipeline by supporting the training environment for students, residents, and fellows.

For these reasons, UMB respectfully urges a favorable report on HB 1540. Continued state support for the Capital Region Medical Center is an investment not only in healthcare delivery, but also in the education and training of the next generation of Maryland's clinicians.

Thank you for your consideration and for your ongoing support of Maryland's public academic health institution.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kevin P. Kelly". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

Kevin P. Kelly, Esq.
Chief Government Affairs Officer
Vice President