



House Bill 599- Health - Licensure of Hospitals - Ownership Requirements

Position: *Letter of Information*

February 11, 2026
House Health Committee

MHA Position

On behalf of the Maryland Hospital Association's (MHA) member hospitals and health systems, we appreciate the opportunity to offer information on House Bill 599.

While Maryland does not require hospitals to be nonprofit as a condition of licensure, the state currently has no for-profit hospitals. Nonprofit hospitals receive tax-exempt status because of the community benefits they are expected to deliver. Nonprofit hospitals and health systems must file a Form 990 with the Internal Revenue Service. Form 990 has an attachment ([Schedule H](#)) to list information on the community benefits provided. All of this information is accessible on the [Health Services Cost Review Commission's \(HSCRC\) website](#).

Hospitals offer a variety of community benefits including support for food, safe housing, and education, as well as patient financial assistance and charity care, community health improvement services, health professional education, and research. Maryland hospitals fund community benefits from their global budget revenue, which the HSCRC sets each year.

We appreciate the opportunity to offer this information to the Committee.

For more information, please contact:

Jane Krienke, Assistant Vice President, Government Affairs & Policy
Jkrienke@mhaonline.org