

HB0045/196787/1

BY: Health and Government Operations Committee

AMENDMENT TO HOUSE BILL 45
(First Reading File Bill)

On page 1, in the sponsor line, strike “and Lam” and substitute “Lam, Cullison, Kelly, Pena-Melnyk, and Pendergrass”; and after line 17, insert:

“Preamble

WHEREAS, Advance directives help people indicate the kind of care they want during a medical crisis or at the end of life; and

WHEREAS, Advance directives support individuals and families in receiving humane, personalized health care by respecting an individual’s wishes and values; and

WHEREAS, The use of advance directives often leads to reduced health care costs by avoiding unwanted and unnecessary health care expenses; and

WHEREAS, Advance directive forms are free, legal, readily available, and straightforward; and

WHEREAS, Advance directive forms can be obtained online and from the State, health care facilities, and faith-based institutions; and

WHEREAS, Only about 30% of Marylanders have advance directives; and

WHEREAS, The rate of the use of advance directives is lower among those in minority groups, and this is now recognized as a minority health disparity; and

WHEREAS, Educational and public information programs can help increase the rate of advance directives; now, therefore,.”