



Committee: Senate Finance Committee

Bill Number: Senate Bill 166

Title: Drugs and Devices – Electronic Prescriptions – Controlled Dangerous Substances

Hearing Date: February 20, 2020

Position: Support with Amendment

The Maryland Nurses Association (MNA) supports *Senate Bill 166 – Drugs and Devices – Electronic Prescriptions – Controlled Dangerous Substances* with an amendment. The bill requires prescribers to issue only electronic prescriptions, with some narrow exceptions when written is appropriate, for controlled dangerous substances.

MNA opposed this legislation when it was initially introduced last year. However, we worked with the proponents and other stakeholders in negotiating the bill. By the end of session, MNA agreed to amendments that addressed the implementation issues raised by providers. This year’s legislation includes all of provider amendments with one minor exception. *In last year’s bill, there was a two-year implementation date. It was shortened to one-year in this year’s bill, so we ask that it be changed back to a two-year implementation period.*

On page 10 in line 19, strike “2020” and replace with “2021.”

If we can provide any additional information as the Committee considers this issue, please contact Robyn Elliott at (443) 926-3443 or relliott@policypartners.net.