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BILL NO.: **HB 316**

TITLE: Public Health – Schedule II Controlled Dangerous Substances –
 Partial Filling of Prescriptions

SPONSOR: Delegate Hill

COMMITTEE: Health and Government Operations

POSITION: **SUPPORT**

DATE: February 11, 2020

Baltimore County **SUPPORTS** House Bill 316 - Public Health – Schedule II Controlled Dangerous Substances – Partial Filling of Prescriptions. Under this legislation, an authorized provider could partially fill a prescription for a controlled dangerous substance in a quantity less than the prescribed amount requested by the patient. The remaining portion could be dispensed within 60 days after the prescription was partially filled.

Since 2015, more than a thousand people have died in Baltimore County from opioid-related overdoses. Addressing the impact of the opioid crisis is one of County Executive Olszewski’s top priorities. Decreasing the number of opioids that a patient has on hand will reduce the probability of a dependency developing, reversing the trend of over-prescription that has exacerbated addiction over the past two decades.

The opioid crisis is a complicated problem that requires comprehensive solutions. HB 316 will help by addressing over-prescription in a manner that strikes an effective balance – reducing the number of accessible pills in medicine cabinets while still allowing individuals relief when they are in pain.

Accordingly, Baltimore County requests a **FAVORABLE** report on HB 316. For more information, please contact Chuck Conner, Chief Legislative Officer, 443-900-6582.