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March 2, 2020

The Honorable Shane Pendergrass, Chair  
House Health and Government Operations Committee  
Room 240, House Office Building  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Re: Support with Amendments – House Bill 1169 – Hospitals – Community Benefits

Dear Delegate Pendergrass:

CareFirst BlueCross BlueShield (“CareFirst”) supports House Bill 1169, “Hospitals – Community Benefits,” with the consensus amendments being proposed by the Health Services Cost Review Commission.

Under Maryland’s All Payer Model Contract which began on January 1, 2014, and entered “Phase 2” on January 1, 2019, it is more important than ever for the state’s hospitals to clearly demonstrate how they are meeting their commitment to the communities in which they operate and how their work is addressing the health needs of their communities. HB 1169, with the consensus amendments, takes an important step forward in ensuring that the reporting around hospital community benefit is clear and meets the needs of community stakeholders.

We urge a favorable report of the bill with the consensus amendments.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Deborah R. Rivkin".

Deborah R. Rivkin

Cc: Members, House Health and Government Operation