



*Keeping You Connected...Expanding Your Potential...  
In Senior Care and Services*

TO: The Honorable Delores G. Kelley, Chair  
Members, Senate Finance Committee  
The Honorable Pamela Beidle

FROM: Danna L. Kauffman  
Pamela Metz Kasemeyer  
J. Steven Wise

DATE: March 3, 2021

RE: **SUPPORT with AMENDMENT** – Senate Bill 748 – *Public Health - State Designated Exchange - Clinical Information*

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On behalf of the LifeSpan Network, the largest and most diverse senior care provider association in Maryland representing nursing facilities, assisted living providers, continuing care retirement communities, medical adult day care centers, senior housing communities and other home- and community- based services, we **support with amendment** Senate Bill 748.

Among other provisions, Senate Bill 748 requires nursing homes to submit information, at the request of the Maryland Department of Health, to the State’s Health Information Exchange (i.e., CRISP) for the purposes of facilitating a State health improvement program, mitigation of a public health emergency, and improvement of patient safety. Under the bill, CRISP will then have the authority for consolidating reporting of industry information.

LifeSpan understands the need to develop a cohesive public policy that advances the coordination of care across the continuum and works to meet Maryland’s goals under the Total Cost of Care model. Senate Bill 748 marks the first step in establishing the infrastructure that can be built upon to meet the purposes of improving quality of care and responding to public health emergencies. However, while we support Senate Bill 748, we also want to ensure that the information reported is only used to support the goals articulated in the bill and is not used for other purposes. Therefore, we support amendments to clarify that the data may only be used for those purposes. With this clarification, we urge a favorable vote.

**For more information call:**  
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