



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

TO: The Honorable Anne R. Kaiser, Chair
Members, House Ways and Means Committee
The Honorable Nino Mangione

FROM: Danna L. Kauffman
Pamela Metz Kasemeyer

DATE: February 16, 2021

RE: **SUPPORT** – House Bill 895 – *Election Law – Polling Places at Continuing Care Retirement Communities*

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** House Bill 895.

This bill requires that a separate precinct be established in a continuing care retirement community (CCRC) if the CCRC requests that a polling place be established on the community premises. It is important to note that this bill is limited in scope to when a CCRC requests to be a polling place. It does not mandate that every CCRC be a polling place. While the State has made great strides in early and absentee voting policies, the ability to physically cast a vote on Election Day is a right that many seniors can no longer exercise due to transportation or mobility issues. House Bill 895 addresses this issue by requiring the Board of Elections to establish a polling place at a CCRC upon the request and cooperation of the CCRC, ensuring greater access for seniors to be able to vote. We urge a favorable report.

For more information call:

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