



Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of the Mid-Atlantic States, Inc
2101 East Jefferson Street
Rockville, Maryland 20852

February 26, 2021

The Honorable Anne R. Kaiser
Committee on Ways and Means
House Office Building Room 131
6 Bladen Street
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

RE: HB 1252 – Support

Dear Chair Kaiser and Members of the Committee:

Kaiser Permanente supports HB 1252, “Income Tax - Credits for Preceptors in Areas with Health Care Workforce Shortages.”

Kaiser Permanente is the largest private integrated health care delivery system in the United States, delivering health care to over 12 million members in eight states and the District of Columbia.¹ Kaiser Permanente of the Mid-Atlantic States, which operates in Maryland, provides and coordinates complete health care services for approximately 775,000 members. In Maryland, we deliver care to over 450,000 members.

Kaiser Permanente supports this legislation as a tool to address the nationwide shortage of practitioners that is expected over the next couple of decades. Studies have projected a shortfall of nearly 105,000 physicians by 2030, including a shortage of between 7,300 and 43,100 for primary care physicians and a shortage of 33,500 to 61,800 for non-primary care specialties. This is especially true for rural and other areas that routinely experience health care workforce shortages now. Kaiser Permanente works closely with students in various healthcare curriculums in both primary care settings as well as specialties such as Orthopedics and Spine Surgery.

Providing preceptorship is essential not only due to the aging population in the coming years who will generate a greater need for advanced care, but also an aging health care workforce approaching retirement. As increases in chronic diseases and limited capacity of education programs further necessitates the need to support this effort, Kaiser Permanente seeks to offset the shortage of practitioners and offer an enriching educational experience for those enrolled in healthcare programs within our service area.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. Please feel free to contact Allison Taylor at Allison.W.Taylor@kp.org or (202) 924-7496 with questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Allison Taylor".

Allison Taylor
Director of Government Relations
Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Mid-Atlantic States, Inc.

¹ Kaiser Permanente comprises Kaiser Foundation Health Plan, Inc., the nation’s largest not-for-profit health plan, and its health plan subsidiaries outside California and Hawaii; the not-for-profit Kaiser Foundation Hospitals, which operates 39 hospitals and over 650 other clinical facilities; and the Permanente Medical Groups, self-governed physician group practices that exclusively contract with Kaiser Foundation Health Plan and its health plan subsidiaries to meet the health needs of Kaiser Permanente’s members.