



Committee: House Health and Government Operations Committee

Bill: House Bill 643 – Health - Disclosure of Medical Records - Penalty

Date: March 2, 2022

Position: Support with Amendment

The Maryland Assembly on School-Based Health Care supports with amendment *House Bill 643 – Health - Disclosure of Medical Records - Penalty*.

Our understanding is that the bill is attempting to make the definition of medical record more in line with HIPAA. We support aligning Maryland’s medical records law with HIPAA so providers aren’t being required two different sets of rules. To the extent that this bill is aligning Maryland with HIPAA we are supportive of that.

We are concerned about the \$1,000 fine included in the bill. Our providers already work very hard to ensure that patient records are shared as quickly as possible but sometime delays do occur. For our members, a \$1,000 fine would be extremely burdensome because our funding is nearly exclusively from public resources. Maryland current medical records law already includes penalties to punish bad actors who are willfully violating their obligations under the state’s medical record law. We ask that the fine included in this bill be removed.

We ask for a favorable report with amendment on this legislation. If we can provide any additional information, please contact Scott Tiffin at stiffin@policypartners.net.