

**House Bill 915 – Maryland Health Care Commission – Patient Safety Center Designation and Fund****Position: *Support***

March 9, 2022

House Health &amp; Government Operations Committee

Dear Chair Pendergrass and Sponsor Sample-Hughes:

As the President of Luminis Health Anne Arundel Medical Center (“LHAAMC”), I write to express my support for House Bill 915.

Passage of House Bill 915 will secure financial stability for the patient safety center designated as such by the Maryland Health Care Commission since 2004. Moreover, it will allow MPSC to grow our important work in the public interest. While I am available upon your request to expound on any aspects of how the mission of Maryland Patient Safety Center’s (“MPSC”) advances the patient care focus of LHAAMC, I take this opportunity to share a few of the MPSC’s initiatives that would benefit from House Bill 915 codification:

**Community Partnership Program**: This program provided a grant to LHAAMC and other hospitals to assist with long term care facilities’ staffing, supplies, and infection control. Through our Clean Collaborative Model, MPSC supported LHAAMC with infection control training and monitoring in four nursing homes located in Anne Arundel County.

**Caring for the Caregiver**: This program provides peer support for Maryland’s health care workforce on a confidential and timely basis.

**Equitable Health Initiatives**: Our work includes the Maternal Health Equity Project which educates Maryland health care providers of the significant disparity in outcomes for Maryland’s pregnant black women; disparities that can be remedied, in part, through education of non-obstetric providers who care for these women.

**Sepsis Care**: MPSC strives to increase sepsis survival rates through programs seeking early identification and rapid initiation of high quality treatment.

Of course, this important work is only possible with financial backing. With the expiration of the HSCRC’s seed funding, MPSC has relied on temporary grants from the Maryland Health Care



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Commission to survive financially. Replacing this uncertain funding mechanism with legislative appropriations will allow the MPSC to play a leading role in the pursuit for long-term patient safety for all Marylanders for generations to come.

I thank you for this opportunity to express my support for House Bill 915 and the important work of Maryland's own patient safety organization—the Maryland Patient Safety Center.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sherry Perkins". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above the printed name.

Sherry Perkins  
President  
Luminis Health  
Anne Arundel Medical Center