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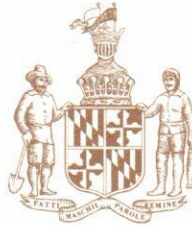
Ways and Means Committee

Subcommittees

Local Revenues

Chair, Racing and Gaming

Chair, Southern Maryland
House Delegation



The Maryland House of Delegates
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THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES

ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

Testimony in Support of HB 1192:

Maryland Health Care Commission – Studies of Issues affecting Individuals With Sickle Cell Disease

March 7, 2022

Dear Chairman Shane Pendergrass, Vice-Chairman Pena-Melnyk and Committee Members of Health and Government Operations:

Sickle Cell Disease (SCD) is one of the world's foremost potentially lethal, genetic diseases, that has severe physical, psychological and social consequences for those affected and their families. SCD can be treated but not easily cured, so lifelong care to prevent or treat problems from SCD is critical.

Data show it occurs among approximately 1 out of every 767 births in Maryland and 1 out of every 256 African American births in Maryland. The estimated number of patients in MD include: 2880 adults and 1920 pediatrics with a total of 4800.

House Bill 1192 - Maryland Health Care Commission – Studies of Issues affecting Individuals With Sickle Cell Disease (SCD) requires the Maryland Health Care Commission, in consultation with the Maryland Department of Health and certain experts and stakeholders, to conduct studies on individuals who provide medical services in emergency departments and their knowledge of sickle cell disease.

The Bill further conducts the coordination of health care for individuals with sickle cell disease who are transitioning from pediatric to adult health care in the State, and on Maryland Medical Assistance Program enrollees seeking medical care for sickle cell disease outside the State; etc. House Bill 1192 provides specified services for the individuals through the Maryland Health Care Commission. The studies will specifically examine knowledge content, educational training, and opportunities to educate individuals who provide medical services.

I am seeking favorable report for this proposed legislation.

Sincerely,

Edith Patterson