

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

TO: The Honorable Shane E. Pendergrass, Chair

Members, House Health and Government Operations Committee

The Honorable Ariana B. Kelly

FROM: Danna L. Kauffman

Pamela Metz Kasemeyer

DATE: February 24, 2022

RE: SUPPORT – House Bill 972 – Continuing Care at Home – Certificate of Need –

Exemption

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 972.

Continuing care at home (CCAH) provides a retirement option for older adults who wish to continue living independently wherever they call home but have access to a wide range of health care should their health needs ever change. To better utilize CCAH, House Bill 972 allows a continuing care retirement community that establishes a CCAH program to use CON-excluded beds at the CCRC for the provision of nursing home care to the CCAH's subscribers.

As Maryland's senior population continues to increase, Maryland must develop innovative approaches to care delivery. Now more than ever, seniors are searching for the ability to receive necessary care in their homes, rather than moving to other health care facilities. CCAH is a program currently authorized in Maryland but has been underutilized. With this small change, the hope is that the CCAH model will become more robust in Maryland and provide one more option for Maryland seniors. We urge a favorable vote on House Bill 972.

For more information call:

Danna L. Kauffman Pamela Metz Kasemeyer 410-244-7000