

SB 556 - CHRC -Letter of Support.pdf

Uploaded by: Mark Luckner

Position: FAV



STATE OF MARYLAND

Community Health Resources Commission

45 Calvert Street, Room 336 • Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Wes Moore, Governor – Aruna Miller, Lt. Governor
Edward J. Kasemeyer, Chair – Mark Luckner, Executive Director

February 22, 2023

The Honorable Guy Guzzone
Chair, Senate Budget & Taxation Committee
3 West, Miller Senate Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

Re: Senate Bill 556 – Maryland Community Health Resources Commission – Compensation of Employees

Dear Chair Guzzone:

Thank you for introducing SB 556 and your continued support of the work of the Maryland Community Health Resources Commission (CHRC) in its mission to expand access to health care services in underserved communities.

SB 556 would provide the same salary setting authority that the other two Maryland Health Regulatory Commissions (HSCRC and MHCC) have. This salary setting authority is critical as the CHRC works to fulfill its statutory responsibilities which have significantly increased in recent years. In 2021, the General Assembly passed legislation directing the CHRC to implement the Maryland Health Equity Resource Act. The CHRC has been recruiting for the position of the HERC PROJECT for over a year. Having the ability to set its own salaries would allow the CHRC to attract a deeper, more diverse pool of qualified candidates.

In 2021, the General Assembly enacted legislation directing the CHRC to staff the Maryland Consortium on Coordinated Community Supports which is tasked with creating a statewide framework to expand behavioral health services for all Maryland K-12 students. The CHRC will need to fill a number of key positions as the work of the Consortium continues to be implemented and expands.

The Governor's FY 2024 allowance includes a total of six new PINs for the CHRC to help staff the Maryland Health Equity Resource Act and the Maryland Consortium on Coordinated Community Supports. The CHRC is eager to recruit and fill these positions and having the same salary setting authority as the HSCRC and MHCC would be helpful.

The CHRC again thanks you for introducing SB 556 and continued support of the Maryland Community Health Resources Commission. We respectfully request a favorable report of SB 556, and would be happy to with the Committee should you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Mark Luckner', is located below the 'Sincerely,' text.

Mark Luckner,
Executive Director

CC: The Honorable Edward J. Kasemeyer, CHRC Chair
Members, Senate Budget & Taxation Committee

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Chair, Senate Budget & Taxation Committee
3 West, Miller Senate Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

Re: Senate Bill 556 – Maryland Community Health Resources Commission – Compensation of Employees - Letter of Support

Dear Chair Guzzone and Committee Members:

The Community Health Resource Commission (CHRC) respectfully submits this letter of support for Senate Bill (SB) 556 - Maryland Community Health Resources Commission - Compensation of Employees. SB 556 will provide the same salary setting authority to CHRC that the other two Maryland Health Regulatory Commissions (HSCRC and MHCC) have. This salary setting authority is critical as the CHRC works to fulfill its statutory responsibilities which have significantly increased in recent years. In 2021, the General Assembly passed legislation directing the CHRC to implement the Maryland Health Equity Resource Act. The CHRC has been recruiting for the position of the HERC PROJECT for over a year. Having the ability to set its own salaries will allow the CHRC to attract a deeper, more diverse pool of qualified candidates.

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The CHRC again thanks you for introducing SB 556 and continued support of the CHRC. We respectfully request a favorable report of SB 556, and would be happy to discuss with the Committee should you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Mark Luckner,
Executive Director

CC: The Honorable Edward J. Kasemeyer, CHRC Chair
Members, Senate Budget & Taxation Committee