

**ROBBYN LEWIS**  
*Legislative District 46*  
Baltimore City



The Maryland House of Delegates  
6 Bladen Street, Room 424  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
410-841-3772 · 301-858-3772  
800-492-7122 Ext. 3772  
Robbyn.Lewis@house.state.md.us

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**THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES**  
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

**Sponsor Testimony in Support of HB1156 – Pharmacists –  
Therapy Management Contract – Form**

**March 22, 2023**

Thank you, Chair Griffith, Vice-Chair Klausmeier, and members of the Finance Committee. I am Delegate Robbyn Lewis here on behalf of HB1156, which will streamline the drug therapy management contract process and lead to better patient outcomes.

The bill modernizes the contract process in two ways: first, by permitting the contract to be entered orally; and secondly, by permitting it to be documented in electronic form.

While this sounds like a simple, technical fix, it is important to understand why this matters.

It matters because health and healing require coordination of care. This is especially true in the case of chronic illnesses, including those whose treatment involves complex medications, or medications with high risk for dependence or abuse.

Drug therapy management is a voluntary, written arrangement that is disease–state specific between a pharmacist, physician and the person who is receiving care from that physician and pharmacist. These two providers must first have established a physician–pharmacist agreement; this agreement must include approved protocols for the patient’s specific disease conditions.

In closing, thank you for your consideration and I respectfully request a favorable report for HB1156.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robbyn Lewis".

Delegate Robbyn Lewis

District 46, Baltimore City