



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

TO: The Honorable Melony Griffith, Chair
Members, Senate Finance Committee
The Honorable Jim Rosapepe

FROM: Danna L. Kauffman
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DATE: March 1, 2023

RE: **SUPPORT** – Senate Bill 648 – *Electronic Health Networks and Electronic Medical Records – Nursing Homes – Release of Records*

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** Senate Bill 648.

Senate Bill 648 requires an electronic health record vendor that is releasing patient medical records or electronic health care transactions to: (1) release the records or transactions in an electronic format that conforms to certain specifications; (2) make the records or transactions available on a regular basis and release the information in a timely manner to support patient care and monitoring; and (3) not restrict, limit, or charge a fee for the release of the records or transactions. As we have seen during the COVID-19 pandemic, the transmission of prompt health information in a safe and secure manner is beneficial in monitoring patient care to respond to emerging issues in public health. Removing barriers or providing reassurances on the processes is always beneficial. As such, LifeSpan supports Senate Bill 648.