



## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Wes Moore, Governor · Aruna Miller, Lt. Governor · Laura Herrera Scott, M.D., M.P.H., Secretary

April 8, 2023

The Honorable Joseline Peña-Melnyk  
Chair, Health and Government Operations Committee  
Room 241, House Office Building  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

**RE: HB 1301 - State-Owned Nursing Homes - Deficiencies, Citations, and Fines - Contractor Reporting Requirements - Letter of Support**

Dear Chair Peña-Melnyk and Committee Members:

The Maryland Department of Health (MDH) respectfully submits this letter of support for House Bill (HB) 1301 – State-Owned Nursing Homes - Deficiencies, Citations, and Fines - Contractor Reporting Requirements. HB 1301 will require contractors operating State-owned nursing homes to provide notice of certain deficiencies, enforcement actions, citations, and fines to the Governor, the State agency overseeing the nursing home, and certain General Assembly committees and members.

MDH supports ensuring that state-owned nursing homes owned by contractors are promptly reporting deficiencies, enforcement actions, and citations. The Office of Health Care Quality (OHCQ) is the agency within MDH charged with monitoring the quality of care in certain health care facilities and community-based programs, including nursing homes. OHCQ will continue to survey these facilities, in accordance with federal and/or State authority, and MDH can complete the reporting requirements outlined in this bill.

If you would like to discuss this further, please do not hesitate to contact Megan Peters, Acting Director of Governmental Affairs at [megan.peters@maryland.gov](mailto:megan.peters@maryland.gov) or (410) 260-3190.

Sincerely,

Laura Herrera Scott, M.D., M.P.H.  
Secretary