



Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of the Mid-Atlantic States, Inc
2101 East Jefferson Street
Rockville, Maryland 20852

[Date of Hearing]

The Honorable Joseline A. Pena-Melnyk
Health and Government Operations Committee
House Office Building Room 240
6 Bladen Street
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

RE: [Bill Number] – [Position]

Dear Chair Pena-Melnyk and Members of the Committee:

Kaiser Permanente is pleased to support HB 1068, “Commission on Responsible Artificial Intelligence in Maryland,” and offers an amendment to add a Managed Care Organization to the Commission.

Kaiser Permanente is the largest private integrated health care delivery system in the United States, delivering health care to over 12 million members in eight states and the District of Columbia.¹ Kaiser Permanente of the Mid-Atlantic States, which operates in Maryland, provides and coordinates complete health care services for over 825,000 members. In Maryland, we deliver care to approximately 475,000 members.

KP appreciates the intent of this legislation to study and make recommendations for oversight of artificial intelligence across public functions in the state. As a Medicaid MCO, we recognize the potential benefits of artificial intelligence to address health disparities. However, we also acknowledge the ethical implications of AI and the need for responsible AI development and deployment.

In recognition of the potential to use algorithms that rely on artificial intelligence to address population health needs, we are increasingly seeing state regulators include such requirements in Medicaid contracts. Medicaid programs in Virginia and Hawaii require us to develop a predictive analytics program to stratify our population by risk and identify members who would benefit from care management services. California currently requires Medi-Cal Managed Care Plans to have a risk stratification algorithm to identify the relative health risk for each newly enrolled member identified as a senior or person with disabilities, including children.

In light of the potential application to the Medicaid program, we request that a managed care organization have a seat on the Commission.

¹ Kaiser Permanente comprises Kaiser Foundation Health Plan, Inc., the nation’s largest not-for-profit health plan, and its health plan subsidiaries outside California and Hawaii; the not-for-profit Kaiser Foundation Hospitals, which operates 39 hospitals and over 650 other clinical facilities; and the Permanente Medical Groups, self-governed physician group practices that exclusively contract with Kaiser Foundation Health Plan and its health plan subsidiaries to meet the health needs of Kaiser Permanente’s members.

Kaiser Permanente
Comments on HB 1068
February 8, 2023

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. Please feel free to contact me at Allison.W.Taylor@kp.org or (202) 924-7496 with questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Allison Taylor".

Allison Taylor
Director of Government Relations
Kaiser Permanente