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Insurance and Pharmaceuticals



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THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

HB 636 – Public Information Act – Inspection of E-Mail Addresses and Telephone Numbers

Testimony of Delegate Pam Guzzone

March 1, 2023

Good afternoon Madam Chair and members of the Health and Government Operations Committee. I'm Delegate Pam Guzzone representing Howard County's District 13 and I am here in support of House Bill 636, Public Information Act – Inspection of E-Mail Addresses and Telephone Numbers.

House Bill 636 will alter and update the definition of "personal information" to include an individual's e-mail address making it a distinct piece of data within the definition. It also modifies 'home phone number' to 'phone number' or 'personal phone number' since many people no longer have home-based landlines and their mobile phone has replaced a home phone number. The bill modifies this language for several specific situations, clarifying what parts of a public record a custodian shall or may allow inspection of.

HB 636 modernizes the Public Information Act and will provide records custodians with clear direction on how to handle e-mail addresses and mobile phone numbers which are contained in the public records of State and local agencies. It will also reduce the confusion and inconsistency may currently be present in addressing these issues. HB 636 will help both requesters of PIA information and the custodians when requesting this type of personal information through the PIA process.

I respectfully request a favorable response on House Bill 636