



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

TO: The Honorable Joseline A. Pena-Melnyk, Chair  
Members, House Health and Government Operations Committee  
The Honorable Pam Guzzone

FROM: Danna L. Kauffman  
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DATE: March 9, 2023

RE: **SUPPORT** – House Bill 786 – *Electronic Health Networks and Electronic Medical Records – Nursing Homes – Release of Records*

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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** House Bill 786.

House Bill 786 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 House Bill 786.