



## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

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

March 28, 2023

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

**RE: Senate Bill 584 (3rd) – Public Health – Parkinson’s Disease Advisory Committee and Website – Letter of Support with Amendments**

Dear Chair Peña-Melnyk and Committee Members:

The Maryland Department of Health (MDH) respectfully submits this letter of support with amendments for Senate Bill (SB) 584 (3rd) - Public Health - Parkinson’s Disease Advisory Committee and Website. SB 584 sets meeting requirements for the Parkinson’s Disease Registry Advisory Committee (the Advisory Committee) and establishes a publicly accessible MDH Parkinson’s disease data website with annually-updated information on Parkinson’s disease incidence disaggregated by demographic and geographic categories.

MDH appreciates the collaboration of the stakeholders and the sponsor on amendments that will establish a process to share data on the incidence of Parkinson’s disease and its various patterns. However, MDH notes that as amended, SB 584 requires the Advisory Committee to meet monthly. MDH is unaware of any similar volunteer Boards or Councils that meet with such frequency. Advisory Committee members serve as volunteers and MDH notes that this meeting frequency may create a burden for members. Therefore, MDH suggests an amendment to convene the committee on a quarterly, rather than monthly, basis to reduce burden as well as fulfill the Advisory Committee’s requirements.

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

MDH AMENDMENT  
AMENDMENT TO SENATE BILL 584  
(Third Reading)

On page 4, in line 16, strike "MONTHLY" and substitute "QUARTERLY".