



## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

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

March 1, 2024

The Honorable Ben Barnes  
Chair, House Appropriations Committee  
Room 121 House Office Building  
Annapolis, MD 21401

### **RE: House Bill 983 – State Personnel - Maryland Department of Health - Pay Rates -Letter of Support**

Dear Chair Guzzone and Committee Members:

The Maryland Department of Health (Department) submits this letter of support for House Bill (HB) 983 – State Personnel - Maryland Department of Health - Pay Rates.

HB 983 requires members of the Department’s bargaining Unit G for Engineering, Scientific, and Administrative Professionals who work at Clifton T. Perkins Hospital Center, who do not receive a forensic pay premium, to receive a salary that is at least two grades higher than the employee’s pay rate as of June 30, 2023. Per the second portion of the bill, employees in these same affected classifications located in other Behavioral Health Administration (BHA) or Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA) facilities meeting the bill’s admission criteria will also receive increases. HB 983 will affect the positions located at Clifton T. Perkins Hospital Center, Springfield Hospital Center, and Spring Grove Hospital Center . Qualifying classifications which do not exist at the Clifton T. Perkins Hospital Center will receive a one grade adjustment. In addition, HB 983 is applicable to certain employees at the Regional Institutes for Children and Adolescents in Baltimore and Rockville, and will require a salary equal to the pay rate that was effective July 1, 2020, for a similarly trained, qualified, or licensed employee at Clifton T. Perkins Hospital Center.

The Department supports the adjustment of salaries for its employees to promote equity within the facilities and to help ensure that they are being fairly compensated for their work. In addition, the Department also recognizes this legislation’s potential to support the Moore-Miller Administration's efforts to grow and retain State personnel by helping to support and strengthen its workforce.

If you would like to discuss this further, please contact Sarah Case-Herron, Director of Governmental Affairs, at [sarah.case-herron@maryland.gov](mailto:sarah.case-herron@maryland.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "LH Scott", is positioned above the typed name.

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