

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

February 21, 2024

The Honorable Pamela Beidle Senate Finance Committee 3 East, Miller Senate Office Building 11 Bladen Street Annapolis, Maryland 21401

RE: SB 93 – Oppose

Dear Chair Beidle and Members of the Committee:

Kaiser Permanente respectfully opposes SB 93, "Health Insurance – Utilization Review – Private Review Agents."

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. 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.

The carriers and provider community worked hard with all stakeholders to come to consensus on SB 791, which also addressed utilization management. That bill's sponsor convened a number of meetings throughout the summer and fall, and all stakeholders had a fair opportunity to participate in the process. We'd also like to thank MedChi for their hard work in building consensus. SB 791 is a fair compromise that we hope provides a better experience for patients and physicians while still providing health plans with appropriate tools to manage costs. To that end, we ask the committee to pass SB 791 instead of this bill.

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

Sincerely,

Allison Taylor

Director of Government Relations

Kaiser Permanente

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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.