



February 21, 2024

The Honorable Pamela Beidle
Chair, Senate Finance Committee
Miller Senate Office Building, 3 East Wing
11 Bladen St., Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: Senate Bill 694 - Maryland Department of Health – Health Commissions and Maryland Insurance Administration – Study – Letter of Support

Dear Chair Beidle and Committee Members:

The Health Services Cost Review Commission (HSCRC) requests that the Committee favorably report Senate Bill 694, “Maryland Department of Health – Health Commissions and Maryland Insurance Administration – Study.”

The Department of Health, each of the Health Regulatory Commissions, and the MIA have had an important role in shaping Maryland’s health care system. An analysis of these agencies has not been performed in recent memory. As we strengthen our focus on population health, increasing access to quality care, and controlling health care costs, we respectfully submit that a comprehensive review of efficiency, effectiveness and collaboration of the agencies is appropriate and important.

HSCRC is working more closely than ever with our partner agencies, particularly related to Maryland’s application to the AHEAD Model. The study contained in Senate Bill 694 will allow us to gain new perspectives on our work and further our collaboration.

The HSCRC supports a favorable report of SB 694. If you have any questions or if I may provide you with any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me at jon.kromm@maryland.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be "JK", written over a light blue dotted background.

Jon Kromm
Executive Director

Joshua Sharfstein, MD
Chairman

Joseph Antos, PhD
Vice-Chairman

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Director
Population-Based Methodologies

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Claudine Williams
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Healthcare Data Management & Integrity