



March 6, 2024

The Honorable Josaline Peña-Melnyk  
Chair, House Health and Government Operations Committee  
Room 241, House Office Building  
Annapolis, MD 21401

**RE: House Bill 1333 - Maryland Commission on Health Equity -  
Membership and Statewide Health Equity Plan – Letter of Support**

Dear Chair Peña-Melnyk and Committee Members:

The Health Services Cost Review Commission (HSCRC) requests that the Committee favorably report House Bill 1333, “Maryland Commission on Health Equity - Membership and Statewide Health Equity Plan.”

The State of Maryland is currently applying to the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services for the AHEAD Model, which will be the successor to the current Total Cost of Care Model. Equity is integrated throughout the AHEAD model. The AHEAD Model requires both the State and hospitals to create health equity plans and specifies membership and duties of the entity that develops the State health equity plan. The HSCRC believes the Maryland Commission on Health Equity is the appropriate entity to lead the State’s efforts to develop the State Health Equity plan under the AHEAD Model.

HSCRC is committed to working with the Maryland Department of Health and other public and private partners to improve health equity in Maryland. The Commission urges a favorable report on HB 1333. If you have any questions or if I may provide you with any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me at 202-251-4211 or [jon.kromm@maryland.gov](mailto:jon.kromm@maryland.gov), or Deb Rivkin, Director of Government Affairs, at 410-991-7422 or [deborah.rivkin@maryland.gov](mailto:deborah.rivkin@maryland.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Jon Kromm".

Jon Kromm  
Executive Director

Joshua Sharfstein, MD  
Chairman

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Vice-Chairman

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Healthcare Data Management & Integrity