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March 7, 2024

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

House Bill 1337 – Health Insurance – Appeals and Grievances Process – Reporting Requirements and Establishment of Workgroup

Dear Chair Pena-Melnyk,

The League of Life and Health Insurers of Maryland, Inc. respectfully **opposes** *HB 1337 – Health Insurance – Appeals and Grievances Process – Reporting Requirements and Establishment of Workgroup* and urges the committee to give the bill an unfavorable report.

The committee is poised to pass omnibus prior authorization (**HB 932**) legislation that was developed with over a year of feedback, with multiple stakeholders, and many discussions that resulted in a bill that will have massive impact in the space and reform how prior authorizations are administered in a newly efficient manner.

The bill is redundant as carriers already provide robust reams of data to the Maryland Insurance Administration (MIA) on appeals and grievances. The MIA Commissioner can also already ask carriers for any data at any time to help them navigate process for consumers. This bill would just make an already complicated process more difficult. HB 932, that is the result of an incredible amount of work, will also reform the appeals and grievance process, and to pass this bill would directly conflict with that effort.

For these reasons, the League urges the committee to give House Bill 1337 an unfavorable report.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Math Celentano", with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Matthew Celentano
Executive Director

cc: Members, House Health and Government Operations Committee