

ARTHUR ELLIS, CPA
Legislative District 28
Charles County

DEPUTY MAJORITY LEADER

Finance Committee

Senate Chair

Joint Committee on the
Management of Public Funds

Chair, Charles, St. Mary's and Calvert
Counties' Senate Delegation



THE SENATE OF MARYLAND
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

Annapolis Office
James Senate Office Building
11 Bladen Street, Room 301
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
410-841-3616 • 301-858-3616
800-492-7122 Ext. 3616
Arthur.Ellis@senate.state.md.us

District Office
3261 Old Washington Road
Waldorf, Maryland 20602

Sponsor Written Testimony: Favorable

Senate Bill 129: Public Health – Maryland Commission on Health Equity – Advisory
Committee and Hospital Reporting

January 23, 2025

Chair Beidle, Vice Chair Hayes, and esteemed members of the Finance Committee:

I am Senator Arthur Ellis, representing District 28, and I am writing to respectfully request the Finance Committee to issue a favorable report for Senate Bill 129, which aims to address long-standing health disparities in Maryland. Maryland has long been recognized for its leadership in healthcare innovation; however, glaring inequities persist in communities of color, low-income families, and other underserved groups. Senate Bill 129 supports the development of a comprehensive framework for transparency, accountability, and action. Furthermore, this bill mandates the establishment of a Health Equity Measures Advisory Committee to identify and address significant health disparities affecting Maryland's most vulnerable populations, and requires hospitals to submit disaggregated data by race, ethnicity, age, and socioeconomic status.

Senate Bill 129 is a timely and necessary measure to dismantle systemic barriers and pave the way for equitable health outcomes across the state. I strongly urge the Finance Committee to support this legislation and help ensure that all Marylanders, regardless of their background or circumstances, have access to quality healthcare.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Arthur Ellis".
Arthur Ellis