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Kent, Queen Anne's,
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Economic Matters Committee

Subcommittees

Alcoholic Beverages
Unemployment Insurance
Workers' Compensation

Joint Audit and Evaluation Committee

Chair, Queen Anne's County Delegation



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THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

HB 1437-FAV

March 7, 2025

The Honorable Josephine Pena-Melnyk
Chair, Health and Government Operations

Re: HB1437-Catastrophic Health Emergency-Immunity for Health Care Providers-Repeal

Dear Madam Chair and Members of the Committee:

HB1437 will repeal immunity for health care providers from civil and criminal liability when under a catastrophic health emergency proclamation.

Under Public Safety Article 14-3A-06, the legislative history shows this provision was added as an amendment to SB 234 (2002) at the urging of the Association of Maryland Hospitals.

For anyone that has suffered the consequences of medical procedures that have gone wrong during a state of emergency, this immunity provision leaves them no recourse in which they may get the resources needed to provide care for themselves or for a person that now endures long term or permanent damage and may require extensive support.

For this reason, I urge a favorable report.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Steven J. Arentz".

Steven J. Arentz