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March 6, 2025

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

**House Bill 1301 - Maryland Medical Assistance Program, Maryland Children's Health Program,  
and Health Insurance – Transfers to Special Pediatric Hospitals – Prior Authorizations**

Dear Chair Pena-Melnyk,

The League of Life and Health Insurers of Maryland, Inc. *supports* **House Bill 1301 - Maryland Medical Assistance Program, Maryland Children's Health Program, and Health Insurance – Transfers to Special Pediatric Hospitals – Prior Authorizations** with an amendment.

League carriers are committed to ensuring that children receive appropriate care in the appropriate setting and continue to collaborate closely with health systems across the state. This legislation is similar to last year's bill (HB 1376), and our concerns about the continued erosion of utilization management tools—such as prior authorization—remain unchanged. Prior authorization is a foundational tool that carriers use to improve care, coordination, and to control costs.

That being said, we understand the unique and targeted nature of this legislation and if the committee decides to advance House Bill 1301, we recommend amending the bill to limit its scope to Maryland hospital systems. As currently drafted, the bill extends to out-of-state systems that fall outside the hospital rate-setting process. For these reasons, the League urges the committee to give House Bill 1301 a favorable with amendment report.

Very truly yours,

Matthew Celentano  
Executive Director

cc: Members, House Health and Government Operations Committee