



March 20, 2026

The Honorable Pamela Beidle
Chair, Senate Finance Committee
3 East Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

RE: House Bill (HB) 882 – Consumer Health Information – Termination Date and Mandatory Funding for the State’s Consumer Health Information Hub – Letter of Information

Dear Chair Beidle and Committee Members:

The Health Services Cost Review Commission (HSCRC) appreciates the opportunity to provide a letter of information regarding **HB 882 – Consumer Health Information – Termination Date and Mandatory Funding**.

HSCRC staff participate in monthly meetings led by the Consumer Health Information Hub (‘the Hub’) and have collaborated with the Hub since 2023. Since its inception the Hub has engaged in significant outreach activities, connecting with consumers, organizations and agencies across the state to support Marylanders’ access to clear information about health care needs and services. The Hub also maintains a valuable website with an array of informative materials, including the Maryland Plain Language Checklist and Web Content Review Tool. Finally, the Hub works proactively with organizations, including State agencies, to review public-facing materials, and to provide specific feedback with examples to guide improvements.

The work of the Hub contributes to stronger health literacy among Marylanders, empowering them with actionable information. Health literacy is associated with greater uptake of preventative health care, increased participation in healthy behaviors and improved overall health outcomes. In this way, the Hub’s focus aligns closely with the State’s Health Improvement Plan, and with the population health and preventative care goals of the Achieving Healthcare Efficiency through Accountable Design (AHEAD) model.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide the Committee with information about the impact of the Consumer Hub. If the Committee or members have any questions, or if I can provide you with any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me at jon.kromm@maryland.gov.

Sincerely,

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

Jon Kromm
Executive Director

