

HB1051\_RichardKaplowitz\_FAV

03/05/2026

Richard Keith Kaplowitz

Frederick, MD 21703

**TESTIMONY ON HB#1051 POSITION: FAVORABLE**

**Public Health - Patient Access to Medication**

**TO:** Chair Bagnall, Vice Chair Cullison, and members of the Health Committee

**FROM:** Richard Keith Kaplowitz

My name is Richard Keith Kaplowitz. I am a resident of District 3, Frederick County. I am submitting this testimony in support of HB#/1051, **Public Health - Patient Access to Medication**

Dialog Health has *10 Strategies to Reduce Hospital Readmissions that Move the Needle - Key Takeaways on Ways to Reduce Hospital Readmissions*<sup>1</sup>

Among those strategies are

- Clear discharge instructions, caregiver involvement, and early follow-ups prevent avoidable returns.
- Medication reconciliation, adherence support, and financial assistance help prevent patients from **readmitting**.

This bill assists in implementing some of the recommended actions on patients at discharge.

This bill accomplishes that goal by establishing the Meds-to-Beds Program in the Maryland Department of Health: providing the purpose of the Program is to reduce hospital readmissions by using a licensed pharmacist to deliver discharge medications to patients before they leave the hospital; requiring each hospital in the State to participate in the Program; authorizing certain health care facilities to use automated drug dispensing systems and remote dispensing systems; and altering the definition of "telehealth" as it applies to certain insurance coverage.

**I respectfully urge this committee to return a favorable report on HB#/1051.**

---

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.dialoghealth.com/post/strategies-to-reduce-hospital-readmissions#:~:text=Enhance%20Patient%20Education%20and%20Discharge,to%20attend%20follow%20visits.>