



Maryland
Hospital Association

**House Bill 1426 – Health Services Cost Review Commission – Duties and Reports –
Revisions**

Position: *Support*

Bill Summary

HB 1426 modifies the timing and required contents of the annual report of the Health Services Cost Review Commission (HSCRC) to include specified information on the “All-Payer Model Contract.” The bill also repeals (1) provisions related to a separate biannual report on the status of the All-Payer Model Contract; (2) a requirement that HSCRC publish specified information about acute care hospital charges; and (3) obsolete provisions related to a report on hospital uncompensated care. The bill authorizes HSCRC to assist in the implementation of federally approved model programs consistent with the current All-Payer Model Contract on the request of the Secretary of Health.

MHA Position

On January 1, 2019 Maryland entered into a new Total Cost of Care agreement with the federal government. The model builds on the All-Payer Model contract and is designed to (1) improve population health; (2) improve outcomes for individuals; and (3) control growth of the total cost of care. To accomplish these goals, the model is designed to move beyond hospitals to address Medicare patients’ care in the community. In addition to treating illness and injury, hospitals are reaching out beyond their four walls to keep people well and improve the health of the communities they serve. The result: hospitals are taking care of the whole person, empowering patients and families, coordinating care among different providers, and addressing social factors that influence people's health.

HB 1426 updates the HSCRC’s reporting requirements to align with the provisions of the new model. The Maryland Hospital Association supports the technical change that is proposed by the HSCRC to strike language that originated from the now expired All-Payer Model contract referencing a compound annual gross state product. This amendment would better align the statute with the new contract language.

For these reasons, we urge you to give HB 1426 a *favorable* report.