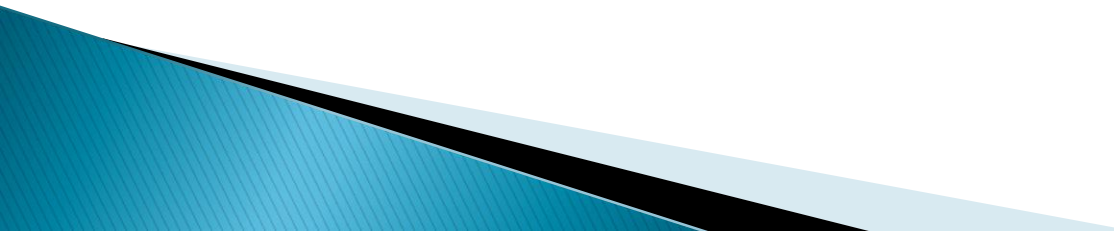


Legislative Update

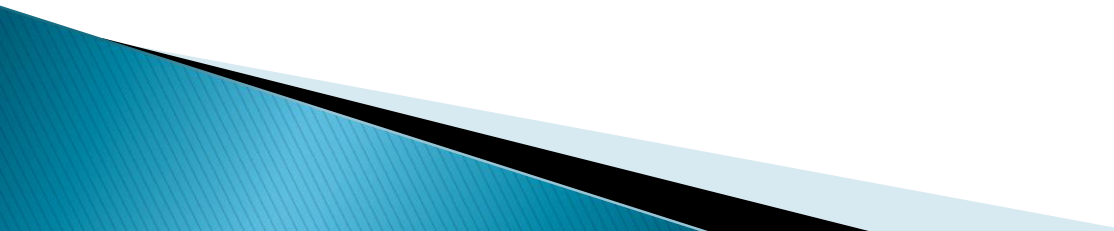
March 21, 2013

Erin M. Dorrien
Chief Government Relations and Special Projects

Agenda

- ▶ Fiscal 2014 Budget
 - ▶ **HB 581** Establishment of Palliative Care Programs– Required
 - ▶ **HB 934/ SB 776** Task Force on the Use of Telehealth to Improve Maryland Health Care
 - ▶ **HB 1015/ SB 746** Health Insurance– Step Therapy or Fail–First Protocol
- 

Fiscal 2014 Budget

- ▶ Analyst recommended reduction to the Health Insurance Partnership Program was rejected
 - ▶ Committee narrative was adopted to require MHCC to convene a stakeholder group to study rural health planning in the State
- 

HB 581

Establishment of Palliative Care Programs– Required

- ▶ Requires hospitals with more than 50 beds to establish palliative care programs
- ▶ Amendments require MHCC to
 - Select 5 pilot sites
 - Identify core data measures for data collection and develop standards for the reporting requirements
 - On or before Dec 1, 2015 report findings of the pilot including best practices and data outcomes to be used to develop minimum standards for palliative care programs across the State

HB 934/ SB 776

Task Force on the Use of Telehealth to Improve Maryland Health Care

- ▶ SB 776– As adopted by the Senate
 - Requires MHCC to convene a Task Force to study the use of Telehealth in Maryland
 - Names 29 members to be appointed by the Governor
 - Establishes General Assembly members as the co-chairs
 - Specifically requires the study of the use of e-visits

HB 934 / SB 776

Task Force on the Use of Telehealth to Improve Maryland Health Care

- ▶ HB 934 as Amended by the House Government Operations Committee
 - Requires MHCC to reconvene Telemedicine Task Force of 2010 in the form of three advisory groups
 - Technical Solutions and Standards Advisory Group
 - Finance and Business Model Advisory Group
 - Clinical Advisory Group
 - Broadly requires the study of the Telehealth to improve health status

HB 1015 / SB 746

Health Insurance– Step Therapy or Fail–First Protocol

- ▶ Establishes requirements for step therapy or fail–first protocols imposed by insurers
- ▶ Requires MHCC to study the use of measures similar to a step therapy or fail–first protocol by health insurance carriers in their coverage of diagnostic imaging, medical and surgical procedures and report to the General Assembly by January 1, 2014
- ▶ MHCC provided a letter of information