



STATE OF DELAWARE
STATE COUNCIL FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

MARGARET M. O'NEILL BUILDING
410 FEDERAL STREET, SUITE 1
DOVER, DE 19901

VOICE: (302) 739-3620
TTY/TDD: (302) 739-3699
FAX: (302) 739-6704

MEMORANDUM

DATE: June 20, 2016

TO: All Members of the Delaware State Senate
and House of Representatives

FROM: Ms. Daniese McMullin-Powell, ^{DM-P/22} Chairperson
State Council for Persons with Disabilities

RE: S.B. 52 (Lay Caregivers)

The State Council for Persons with Disabilities (SCPD) has reviewed S.B. 52 which would require hospitals to act as follows: 1) solicit a patient's optional designation of one or more lay caregivers (lines 34-36); 2) record such designation in the Delaware Health Information Network (DHIN) (lines 37-38); 3) notify a lay caregiver of discharge from the hospital; 4) offer the lay caregiver an opportunity to obtain information about aftercare tasks (lines 50-54 and 60-61); and 5) share a discharge plan with the lay caregiver which includes education based on an assessment of the lay caregiver's learning needs (lines 62-63 and 69-73).

SCPD endorses the concept of the proposed legislation. Consistent with the synopsis, an estimated 123,000 Delawareans provide varying degrees of unreimbursed care to adults with limitations in daily activities. In some cases, they may be expected to perform some tasks in which training would be helpful (e.g. administering medications; providing wound care; operating medical equipment). The legislation would benefit patients and families by providing a simple way to designate a lay caregiver and the sharing of aftercare treatment guidance with the lay caregiver. This should enhance the provision of aftercare supports conforming to the discharge plan.

Thank you for your consideration and please contact SCPD if you have any questions regarding our observations on the proposed legislation.

cc: Mr. Brian Hartman, Esq.
AARP
Governor's Advisory Council for Exceptional Citizens
Developmental Disabilities Council