



April 8, 2019

Wayne A. Smith
President & CEO

The Honorable Paul S. Baumbach
411 Legislative Avenue
Dover, DE 19901

Ref: Support for HB 61

Dear Representative Baumbach,

*Alfred I. duPont Hospital
for Children*
Roy Proujansky, MD,
Chief Executive of
Nemours Delaware
Valley Operations

Thank you for being the lead House sponsor on HB 61 to amend Title 16 of the Delaware Code relating to the Uniform Controlled Substances Act. The Delaware Healthcare Association (DHA) is pleased to support this legislation.

Bayhealth
Terry Murphy,
President & CEO

DHA represents hospitals and health care delivery systems in Delaware and advocates for policies that create an environment for enabling every Delawarean to be as healthy as they can be. HB 61 would add additional Benzodiazepine drugs to Schedule IV of the Uniform Controlled Substances Act due to the serious potential for abuse. Across the nation, and here in Delaware we are facing an opioid epidemic. More than 30 percent of overdoses involving opioids also involve benzodiazepines. In our state, it is estimated that as many as 400 Delawareans died in 2018 as the result of a drug overdose. DHA supports efforts to raise awareness of the potential for abuse of Benzodiazepine drugs as part of a multipronged approach to address the behavioral health and substance abuse needs in our state and improve the health of all Delawareans.

Beebe Healthcare
Jeffrey M. Fried
President & CEO

*Christiana Care Health
System*
Janice E. Nevin, M.D.
MPH
President & CEO

Nanticoke Health Services
Steven A. Rose, RN, MN
President & CEO

DHA is pleased to support HB 61 and looks forward to working with you and the members of the General Assembly to advance this important legislation.

Saint Francis Healthcare
Daniel Sinnott
President & CEO

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Wayne A. Smith'.

*Delaware Healthcare
Association*
Wayne A. Smith
President & CEO

Wayne A. Smith
President & CEO

