

NICHOLAUS R. KIPKE
Legislative District 31
Anne Arundel County

MINORITY LEADER

Health and Government
Operations Committee

Insurance Subcommittee
Government Operations
Subcommittee

Joint Committee
on Federal Relations



The Maryland House of Delegates
6 Bladen Street, Room 212
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
410-841-3421 • 301-858-3421
800-492-7022 Ext. 3421
Fax 410-841-3553 • 301-858-3553
Nicholaus.Kipke@house.state.md.us

The Maryland House of Delegates
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

January 15, 2014

Mr. Ben Steffen
Executive Director
Maryland Health Care Commission
4160 Patterson Ave
Baltimore, Maryland 21215

RE: Proposed Regulations -- Assuring The Quality of Cardiac Surgery and PCI Services

Dear Mr. Steffen:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on the proposed regulations related to cardiac services.

There is one issue that caught my attention when reviewing testimony at the hearing today. The American College of Cardiology – Maryland Chapter expressed concern related to the frequency of external peer review. I strongly support their assertion that external peer review take place more frequently than on an annual basis. Please consider ensuring that their recommendation for at least quarterly external peer review be included in the final regulations.

Thank you for considering my request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Nick Kipke".

Nicholaus R. Kipke