



January 29, 2020

Wayne A. Smith  
President & CEO

The Honorable David Bentz  
411 Legislative Avenue  
Dover, DE 19901

**RE: Support for HB 286, Surprise Billing**

Dear Representative Bentz,

*Alfred I. duPont Hospital  
for Children*  
Jay Greenspan, MD,  
Interim Chief Executive  
Nemours Delaware  
Valley Operations

Thank you for being the lead House sponsor on House Bill 286 to protect Delawareans from surprise medical bills. The Delaware Healthcare Association (DHA) strongly supports this legislation.

*Bayhealth*  
Terry Murphy,  
President & CEO

A Surprise Bill typically refers to situations where a patient either receives Emergency Department services from non-network providers or when a patient receives non-emergency care from an out-of-network provider at an in-network facility without this being disclosed in advance. Delaware already protects patients from surprise bills regarding Emergency Department services, but HB 286 provides more comprehensive patient protection by expanding those to cover inadvertent out-of-network service provision at health care facilities in non-emergency cases.

*Beebe Healthcare*  
Rick Schaffner  
Interim CEO

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

Under the legislation, surprise bills would no longer go to patients but would be settled between providers and health insurers through negotiation. If agreement could not be reached, rules utilized by the Insurance Commissioner provide for an alternative dispute resolution through arbitration. Balance billing the insured in these situations is not permitted. DHA is pleased to support HB 286 that arrives at a solution to surprise billing that takes patients out of the middle of payment disputes.

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

*Saint Francis Healthcare*  
Daniel Sinnott  
President & CEO

We urge your colleagues to join in eliminating surprise billing in Delaware.

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

Thank you again for sponsoring HB 286 and we look forward to working with you and the members of the General Assembly to advance this important legislation.

Sincerely,

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

Wayne A. Smith  
President & CEO

*DHA represents hospitals and health care delivery systems in Delaware and advocates for policies that create an environment enabling every Delawarean to be as healthy as they can be.*