

April 15, 2019

Wayne A. Smith President & CEO

The Honorable Nicole Poore Senate Majority Leader 411 Legislative Avenue Dover, DE 19901

Ref: SB 60 Human Trafficking

Dear Senator Poore,

Thank you for being the lead Senate sponsor on SB 60 to amend Title 11 of the Delaware Code relating to crimes. The Delaware Healthcare Association (DHA) applauds your leadership in addressing human trafficking in Delaware.

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 60 assists victims of human trafficking by clarifying that in order to be found guilty of prostitution the person must be 18 years or older.

Studies have shown that as many as 88% of human trafficking victims came into contact with a health care professional during the period when they were being trafficked. Since health care providers are on the front lines of this issue, hospitals and health care delivery systems in Delaware have come together to fight back against human trafficking. As you may know, DHA's Human Trafficking Medical Committee has been working diligently to develop recommendations for hospitals to implement that will help health care providers identify the signs of human trafficking in the health care setting and contact the appropriate resources to assist victims. The committee will be releasing these recommendations next month and will continue to work together with state partners to implement best practices in addressing human trafficking in Delaware.

DHA appreciates your leadership in introducing SB 60 and looks forward to continuing to work with you and the members of the General Assembly to address human trafficking in Delaware.

Sincerely,

Wayne A. Smith President & CEO

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

Bayhealth Terry Murphy, President & CEO

Beebe Healthcare Rick Schaffner, RN Interim President & CEO

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

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

Saint Francis Healthcare Daniel Sinnott President & CEO

Delaware Healthcare Association Wayne A. Smith President & CEO