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Senate Bill 511 - Task Force on Oral Health in Maryland

SUPPORT WITH AMENDMENT

Senate Finance Committee February 18, 2020

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this testimony in support of Senate Bill 511- Task Force on Oral Health in Maryland. We respectfully ask for an amendment to the bill to include managed care organization representation on the Task Force.

The Maryland Managed Care Organization Association's (MMCOA) nine member Medicaid MCOs that serve over 1.2 million Marylanders through the Medicaid HealthChoice program are committed to identifying ways to improve quality and access to care for all Medicaid participants.

MMCOA supports the establishment of a Task Force on Oral Health in Maryland and its goals to identify areas lacking in dental services, identify and analyze barriers to receiving services, assess options to eliminate barriers, and make recommendations on methods to increase access to dental services.

Among the benefits provided to our members is adult dental care which is provided at the choice of the MCO because of its importance to the overall health of the member. Given our role in providing that care and given the experience and knowledge that MCOs have in the health challenges facing those we serve, we respectfully ask that Senate Bill 511 be amended to include a representative of MMCOA serve as a member of the Oral Health Task Force.

We would welcome our involvement in this worthwhile initiative and look forward to the collaborative opportunities and improvements that involvement would bring.

Please contact Jennifer Briemann, Executive Director of MMCOA, with any questions regarding this testimony at jbriemann@marylandmco.org.