



Committee: House Health and Government Operations Committee
Bill Number: House Bill 196
Title: Maryland Health Benefit Exchange – Establishment of a State-Based Health Insurance Subsidies Program
Hearing Date: February 20, 2020
Position: Support

The Licensed Clinical Professional Counselors of Maryland (LCPCM) supports *House Bill 196 – Maryland Health Benefit Exchange – Establishment of a State-Based Health Insurance Subsidies Program*. This bill requires the Maryland Health Benefit Exchange to establish and implement a program to reduce the amount individuals pay for health benefit plans in the individual health insurance market.

Marylanders across the state continue to experience too many barriers in accessing behavioral health services. In addition to there not being enough behavioral health providers overall, many individuals experience difficulties paying premiums, which prevents them from seeking needed treatment.

LCPCM is very supportive of establishing this new program to assist individuals in covering the cost of behavioral health services. If we can provide any further information, please contact our legislative representative, Rachael Faulkner, at (410) 693-4000 or rfaulkner@policypartners.net.

Thank you for your consideration of our testimony, and we urge a favorable vote. If we can provide any further information, please contact Rachael faulkner at rfaulkner@policypartners.net or 410-693-4000.