



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

The Maryland Affiliate of the American College of Nurse Midwives supports *House Bill 196 -- Maryland Health Benefit Exchange – Establishment of a State-Based Health Insurance Subsidies Program*. This bill would require the Maryland Health Benefits Exchange to establish and implement a state-based health insurance subsidies program to help subsidize individuals when buying health benefit plans in the individual market.

Currently, federal subsidies are available to help some low-income families with their premiums. However, some families are still unable to afford coverage. This legislation provides an avenue, if funds are available, for the Maryland Health Benefit Exchange to offer additional support for premiums. This support could help Maryland make further progress in lower the number of uninsured individuals.

Thank you for your consideration of our testimony. If we can provide any further information, please contact Robyn Elliott at relliott@policypartners.net or (443) 926-3443.