



**Committee:** House Health and Government Operations Committee  
**Bill Number:** HB 970  
**Title:** Health Insurance – Reimbursement of Primary Care Providers – Bonus Payments - Applicability  
**Hearing Date:** February 20, 2020  
**Position:** Support with Amendment

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The Maryland Affiliate of the American College of Nurse Midwives (ACNM) supports House Bill 970 – *Health Insurance – Reimbursement of Primary Care Providers – Bonus Payments – Applicability* with an amendment. This bill would add a definition of primary care provider to the law requiring state-regulated health plans to pay a bonus payment for services provided in the office outside of regular office hours. Currently a definition of primary care provider is missing from the law. This bill defines a primary care provider as: 1) a physician certified in family practice, internal medicine, or pediatrics or otherwise identified as a primary care provider in a contract, 2) a physician assistant, or 3) a nurse practitioner.

ACNM supports the bill clarifying the law with one amendment. Certified nurse-midwives (CNMs) are primary care providers that provide comprehensive care to women that includes wellness, preventive care, screening, and treatment. They also provide primary care for newborns. In addition, CNMs are recognized as primary care providers under existing federal health care programs, including the National Health Service Corps, that address primary care workforce expansion, reimbursement for services, and loan repayment programs. Therefore, we suggest the following amendment:

*On page 2 in line 10, strike “OR” and insert “,”; and in line 11 insert “, OR CERTIFIED NURSE- MIDWIFE” after “PRACTITIONER”*

Thank you for your consideration of our testimony, and we urge a favorable vote with this amendment. If we can provide any further information, please contact Robyn Elliott at [relliott@policypartners.net](mailto:relliott@policypartners.net) or (443) 926-3443.