



MARYLAND CITIZENS' HEALTH INITIATIVE

### TESTIMONY IN FAVOR OF HOUSE BILL 1528

Before the House Health and Government Operations Committee  
By Holly Thompson, Intern of the Maryland Citizens' Health Initiative, Inc. and  
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March 11, 2020

Madam Chair and Members of the Committee, thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of House Bill 1528, which will create a Maryland Council on Health in All Policies. Thank you to Delegate Lewis for sponsoring HB 1528 and for all of your leadership on health policy. The Health in All Policies approach addresses the social determinants of health that are key drivers of health outcomes and health inequities. It is a collaborative approach to improving the health of all Marylanders by incorporating health considerations into decision-making across sectors and policy areas.<sup>1</sup> This important Council will be able to carry out recommendations made the Health in All Policies Workgroup, including developing a Framework for Maryland.<sup>2</sup> Thank you for your efforts toward quality, affordable health care for all Marylanders. We urge a favorable report from the Committee on HB 1528.

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<sup>1</sup> American Public Health Association. "An Introduction to Health In All Policies: A guide for State and Local Governments." [https://www.apha.org/-/media/files/pdf/factsheets/health\\_inall\\_policies\\_guide\\_169pages.ashx?la=en&hash=641B94AF624D7440F836238F0551A5FF0DE4872A](https://www.apha.org/-/media/files/pdf/factsheets/health_inall_policies_guide_169pages.ashx?la=en&hash=641B94AF624D7440F836238F0551A5FF0DE4872A)

<sup>2</sup> Senate Bill 340/ House Bill 1225: University of Maryland School of Public health, Center for Health Equity, Workgroup on Health in All Policies. September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2019 Report. [https://www.google.com/url?sa=t&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=web&cd=1&ved=2ahUKEwip8cH768znAhW3mHIEHdmpCdUQFjAAegQIAhAB&url=https%3A%2F%2Fsph.umd.edu%2Fsites%2Fdefault%2Ffiles%2Fimages%2FSept%252030t%25202019%2520HiAP%2520Report\\_Final%2520\(1\).pdf&usg=AOvVaw3WvfRSgzyR7eKdFmkgwkOQ](https://www.google.com/url?sa=t&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=web&cd=1&ved=2ahUKEwip8cH768znAhW3mHIEHdmpCdUQFjAAegQIAhAB&url=https%3A%2F%2Fsph.umd.edu%2Fsites%2Fdefault%2Ffiles%2Fimages%2FSept%252030t%25202019%2520HiAP%2520Report_Final%2520(1).pdf&usg=AOvVaw3WvfRSgzyR7eKdFmkgwkOQ)