



## TESTIMONY FOR SB0278

### STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH – SCHOOL-BASED HEALTH CENTER STANDARDS - TELEHEALTH

**Bill Sponsor:** Senator Kagan

**Committee:** Education, Health and Environmental Affairs

**Organization Submitting:** Maryland Legislative Coalition

**Person Submitting:** Cecilia Plante, co-chair

**Position:** FAVORABLE

I am submitting this testimony in favor of SB0278 on behalf of the Maryland Legislative Coalition. The Maryland Legislative Coalition is an association of individuals and grassroots groups with members in every district in the state. We have over 30,000 members across the state.

We are excited by the prospect of leveraging school-based health centers, a resource that is already available throughout our state, into a model that will help serve their communities better. Expanding telehealth services to the broader community, especially in light of the pandemic not only makes sense but is a cost-effective way to provide basic health care to those who cannot afford private health insurance.

This would accelerate the process of adopting telehealth in the school-based health centers and will inevitably make our communities safer.

The Maryland Legislative Coalition supports this bill and we recommend a **FAVORABLE** report in Committee.