



MID-ATLANTIC ASSOCIATION OF  
COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTERS

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TO: The Honorable Delores G. Kelley, Chair  
Members, Senate Finance Committee  
The Honorable Brian J. Feldman

FROM: Pamela Metz Kasemeyer  
Danna L. Kauffman  
J. Steven Wise  
Christine Krone

DATE: February 8, 2022

RE: **SUPPORT** – Senate Bill 244 – *Maryland Medical Assistance Program – Self-Measured Blood Pressure Monitoring*

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On behalf of the Maryland State Medical Society and the Mid-Atlantic Association of Community Health Centers, we submit this letter of **support** for Senate Bill 244.

Senate Bill 244 requires Medicaid to provide coverage for self-measured blood pressure monitoring for all Medicaid recipients diagnosed with uncontrolled blood pressure. Coverage includes both the provision of validated home blood pressure monitors but also reimbursement for provision of professional services related to the training, data collection and interpretation, and delivery of co-interventions.

The provision of care through telemedicine, including remote patient monitoring, has not only addressed necessary access challenges associated with providing in-person care but also highlighted the benefits of facilitating home monitoring of conditions such as high blood pressure. Uncontrolled high blood pressure is commonly a condition for recipients that are likely to have other health challenges that make regular visits to a health care practitioner to check their blood pressure difficult. Failure to regularly monitor blood pressure is likely to result in preventable illness, poor health outcomes, and increased costs.

Regardless of the future authorization framework for telehealth services and remote patient monitoring, the coverage of self-measured blood pressure monitoring should become a permanent benefit/coverage for Medicaid recipients. It will improve health outcomes, prevent unnecessary deaths, and result in related cost savings. A favorable report is requested.

**For more information call:**

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