

Planned Parenthood of Maryland

Committee:	Appropriations Committee
Bill Number:	House Bill 477 - Public Senior Higher Education Institutions - Reproductive Health Services Plans – Requirements
Hearing:	February 14, 2023
Position:	Support

Planned Parenthood of Maryland (PPM) supports *House Bill 477 – Public Senior Higher Education Institutions - Reproductive Health Services Plans - Requirements*. This bill requires each public senior higher education institution, in consultation with students, to develop and implement a reproductive health services plan to provide at the institution or to refer students to a comprehensive range of reproductive health services. The services must include access to contraception, sexually transmitted infection prevention and treatment, and abortion care services.

This bill will improve access to reproductive health care for thousands of Maryland students, many of whom do not their own cars or access to reliable transportation. Universities will be responsible for either providing or referring for reproductive health services. Each university must have a plan that includes wrap-around services such as transportation for off-campus services. Also, each university must provide 24/7 access to over-the-counter contraception, and may use a wide range of options, including vending machines, to meet this requirement.

Every person should have access to safe and comprehensive reproductive health services. We ask for a favorable report on this legislation. If we can provide any additional information, please contact Robyn Elliott at <u>relliott@poliypartners.net</u>.