

February 16, 2023

Testimony on House Bill 363
Maryland Health Benefit Exchange and Maryland Department of Health –
Health Care Coverage for Undocumented Immigrants - Report
House Health and Government Operations Committee

Position: Support

Maryland Nonprofits is a statewide association of more than 1500 nonprofit organizations and institutions. We urge your support for House Bill 363 to prove the information necessary to better serve and meet the health care needs **of all Marylanders**, including communities of color who have been disproportionately impacted by lack of care.

In 2022 this committee took a bold step in ensuring that pregnant women have access to care for their unborn babies. The Healthy Babies Equity Act expanded Medicaid to pregnant individuals who meet the normal requirements of the program regardless of immigration status.

While we know this will have an immediate positive impact on our communities, House Bill 363 will allow us to gather information to help better serve our uninsured residents - by comparing options for offering affordable healthcare coverage to State residents who are ineligible for the Maryland Medical Assistance Program, the Maryland Children's Health Program, or qualified health plans through the Maryland Health Benefit Exchange due to the individual's immigration status.

These are essential steps to align our health system and programs with our values, and assure affordable, adequate and accessible health care for all Marylanders.

We urge you to give **House Bill 363 a favorable report**