

Statement of Maryland Rural Health Association (MRHA) To the Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee Chair: Senator Brian Feldman February 21, 2024 Senate Bill 0483: Maryland Community Investment Corporation - Establishment (Housing and Community Development Financing Act of 2024)

POSITION: SUPPORT

Chair Feldman, Vice Chair Kagan, and members of the Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee, the Maryland Rural Health Association (MRHA) is in SUPPORT of Senate Bill 0483: Maryland Community Investment Corporation - Establishment (Housing and Community Development Financing Act of 2024)

Low-income communities are significantly disadvantaged and have significant health risks. According to (D'Alessandro & Appolloni, 2020), "It is evident that the theme of "housing and health" nowadays needs to be assessed with a multidisciplinary approach because of the complexity and wideness of its components. Moreover, it is clear that to guarantee good health standards today, direct political and administrative choices are indispensable to improve the overall conditions of the neighborhood and of the building. This is why we urge a favorable report.

On behalf of the Maryland Rural Health Association, Jonathan Dayton, MS, NREMT, CNE, Executive Director <u>jdayton@mdruralhealth.org</u>