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Education, Energy, and  
the Environment Committee



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THE SENATE OF MARYLAND  
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

February 27<sup>th</sup>, 2024

The Honorable Pam Beidle, Chair

Senate Finance Committee

RE: SB778 – Health Insurance – Hearing Aids for Adults - Coverage

Position: **Favorable w/ Amendment**

Dear Chair Beidle,

Currently, minors in the State of Maryland are eligible for a max benefit payable limit to \$1,400 per hearing aid for each hearing-impaired ear every 36 months.

SB 778 simply expands the limit for adults to be in line with the benefit limit provided to minors. SB 778 will help adults with hearing loss overcome the economic obstacles that often leave individuals untreated and without hearing aids.

There is one amendment through collaboration with the various health insurance groups that specifies coverage will be provided if the hearing aids are prescribed, fitted, and dispensed by a licensed audiologist.

I respectfully ask the committee for a favorable report to assist our hearing-impaired adults gain greater access to hearing aids.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jason Gallion".

Jason Gallion

Senator, District 35