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TO: The Honorable Pamela Beidle, Chair
Members, Senate Finance Committee
The Honorable Justin Ready

FROM: Pamela Metz Kasemeyer
J. Steven Wise
Danna L. Kauffman
Andrew G. Vetter
Christine K. Krone

DATE: February 14, 2023

RE: **SUPPORT** – Senate Bill 535 – *Health Insurance – Labor and Delivery Services – Cost-Sharing Requirements*

On behalf of The Maryland State Medical Society and the Maryland Section of The American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, we **support** Senate Bill 535.

Senate Bill 535 requires insurers, nonprofit health service plans, and health maintenance organizations to provide coverage for labor and delivery services without a copayment, deductible, co-insurance, or any other cost-sharing requirements.

The General Assembly has made a notable commitment to protecting access to and the provision of reproductive health care services. Similarly, labor and delivery services should be accessible and affordable. Currently, many insurance plans have significant deductibles and copayments that significantly disadvantage many low- and middle-income Marylanders who struggle to meet their cost-sharing responsibilities for labor and delivery services. Passage of Senate Bill 535 is in line with the policies that this General Assembly has advanced and continues to prioritize. A favorable report is requested.

For more information:
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