

APRIL ROSE
Legislative District 5
Carroll and Fredrick Counties

ASSISTANT MINORITY LEADER

Economic Matters Committee

Subcommittees

Banking, Consumer Protection,
and Commercial Law

Property and Casualty Insurance

Unemployment Insurance

Chair

Carroll County House Delegation



The Maryland House of Delegates
6 Bladen Street, Room 213
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
410-841-3070 • 301-858-3070
800-492-7122 Ext. 3070
Fax 410-841-3315 • 301-858-3315
April.Rose@house.state.md.us

THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

March 13, 2024

Support House Bill 1216

High-Risk Pregnancy Reimbursement Fund - Establishment

House Health and Government Operations Committee

Chair Pena-Melnyk, Vice Chair Cullison and Members of the Committee,

This bill establishes a High-Risk Pregnancy Reimbursement Fund to provide reimbursement to an individual for unforeseen out-of-pocket health care costs related to the individual's high-risk pregnancy. An individual may receive reimbursement of up to \$25,000 from the fund for each high-risk pregnancy.

The Secretary of Health must administer the fund. Beginning in fiscal 2026, the Governor must include in the annual budget bill an appropriation of \$2.5 million to the fund.

An individual is eligible to apply for reimbursement from the fund if the individual.

- Provides documentation (from a physician or other health care provider) that the pregnancy is high-risk for the pregnant individual and/or the baby.
- Provides documentation that the individual paid out-of-pocket costs for health care services associated with the pregnancy that were not covered or reimbursed by insurance and applies for reimbursement of eligible costs within six months after the birth of the child or the loss of the pregnancy.

Many women find themselves and their families with huge unexpected out of pocket costs when faced with a high-risk pregnancy. Even those with good insurance policies often find themselves with very large out of pocket deductibles and expenses. This bill will go a long way to provide some financial assistance.

I ask request a favorable report.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "April Rose". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Delegate April Rose
District 5, Carroll and Frederick counties