

January 25, 2024

The Honorable Joseline A. Peña-Melnyk
Chair, House Health and Government Operations Committee
Room 241, House Office Building
6 Bladen St.
Annapolis, MD 21401

Re: Letter of Support – HB 240 – Health Insurance – Cancellation of Individual Health Benefit Plans – Restriction

Dear Chair Peña-Melnyk and Members of the House Health and Government Operations Committee,

The Maryland Health Benefit Exchange (MHBE) respectfully submits this letter of support for House Bill (HB) 240 - Health Insurance – Cancellation of Individual Health Benefit Plans – Restriction. HB 240 would establish a threshold amount (\$10) of the total net premium owed on a health plan by the policyholder under which the insurer would not be permitted to terminate the policy without first notifying and providing the policyholder a limited additional opportunity to pay the remainder of the premium owed.

MHBE supports the intent of this bill to protect consumers who have demonstrated a good faith effort to pay their premium. MHBE has encountered instances where a consumer has had a plan terminated by a carrier due to a nonpayment of premium below the proposed \$10 threshold. This bill would help to create standards to safeguard Marylanders from losing their health insurance coverage over negligible amounts of premium owed.

For further discussions or questions on HB 240, please contact Johanna Fabian-Marks, Director of Policy and Plan Management at johanna.fabian-marks@maryland.gov.

Sincerely,



Michele Eberle
Executive Director