



TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HOUSE BILL 718

Maryland Health Insurance Coverage Protection Commission - Established

Before the Senate Finance Committee

By Stephanie Klapper, Deputy Director, Maryland Health Care For All Coalition

March 27, 2025

Thank you Chair Beidle, Vice-Chair Hayes, and Members of the Senate Finance Committee for this opportunity to strongly support HB 718. I am Stephanie Klapper of the Maryland Health Care For All Coalition, bringing together hundreds of faith, community, labor, health care and business groups from across the state. We thank this Committee for your leadership in protecting and expanding health care coverage in Maryland. In 2017 when once before a federal administration was threatening the Affordable Care Act you led the way in creating the Health Insurance Coverage Protection Commission of that year, on which our organization's president, Vincent DeMarco, was honored to serve. That Commission fostered very important and successful Maryland based health care measures such as the Reinsurance Program, Easy Enrollment and the Young Adult Health Insurance Subsidy Program, all of which have helped keep health coverage available and affordable in our state. Now as health care coverage is once again under threat at the federal level we strongly you to pass HB 718 so that once again Maryland can have a body dedicated to proposing ways to protect and expand affordable health care coverage in our state.

Maryland Health Care for All! Coalition

