



**Maryland Association
of Nurse Anesthetists**

Committee: Senate Finance Committee

Bill Number: HB 1086 – Maryland Medical Assistance Program and Health Insurance – Coverage for Anesthesia – Prohibiting Time Limitations

Date: March 26, 2025

Position: Favorable

The Maryland Association of Nurse Anesthetists (MANA), representing over 900 Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists (CRNAs) across Maryland, strongly supports House Bill 1086, which prohibits time limitations on anesthesia coverage.

CRNAs are advanced practice nurses who provide anesthesia care across all settings and for all patient populations. As frontline providers of anesthesia services, we have witnessed firsthand the negative impact that arbitrary time limitations on anesthesia coverage can have on patient care, procedural workflow, and healthcare costs.

Why This Legislation Is Needed:

1. **Patient Safety:** Medical procedures can take longer than anticipated due to unforeseen complications or patient-specific factors. When insurers impose time limitations on anesthesia coverage, it creates pressure to rush procedures or may result in patients experiencing pain or awareness if anesthesia services are prematurely discontinued.
2. **Clinical Autonomy:** Medical professionals must be able to deliver anesthesia based on clinical judgment and patient needs, not arbitrary time constraints imposed by payers. This bill appropriately places medical decision-making in the hands of licensed medical professionals.
3. **Equitable Care:** Currently, patients with complex medical conditions who require longer procedures may face financial penalties through denials of coverage for necessary anesthesia services. This creates an inequitable system where the most vulnerable patients face the greatest financial burdens.
4. **Comprehensive Coverage:** By requiring coverage for the entire duration of a procedure, this legislation ensures that all Maryland patients receive the comprehensive care they need without fear of unexpected out-of-pocket expenses.

House Bill 1086 represents a significant step forward in protecting patient safety, supporting medical professionals, and ensuring fair insurance practices. MANA particularly supports the

bill's clear language that prohibits time limitations and requires coverage for the "entire duration of the procedure" when anesthesia is ordered by a licensed medical professional.

Thank you for your consideration of our position on this crucial healthcare legislation. MANA urges a favorable report on House Bill 1086.

If you have any questions please contact MANA's lobbyist, William Kress, Esquire at bill@kresshammen.com.