



Southern Maryland Chapter

January 24, 2025

The Honorable Members of the Senate Finance Committee

Re: Senate Bill 94 Maryland Medical Assistance Program – Self-Measured Blood Pressure Monitoring (Favorable)

This bill is critical. 34.5% of Maryland residents are told they have hypertension. Some of the key evidence-based benefits of remote blood pressure monitoring in cardiac care include prompt adjustments to treatment plans, elimination of white coat syndrome, which can increase blood pressure, and prompt lifestyle adjustments through encouraging treatment adherence. A hypertensive patient would use an RPM device to take measurements from home, automatically uploading the data to their clinician's monitoring platform. The clinical team can access this data through a dashboard and promptly adjust the patient's medication or treatment plan. Alerts can notify the provider and patient if a reading exceeds a predetermined threshold.

The bill will improve care coordination for rural and medically underserved areas and can help patients access medications and use them correctly. One-third of our chapter has hypertension, but not one has or was offered a monitoring system. We request a favorable vote on House Bill 94 as another medical tool to save lives.

Respectfully submitted,

Southern Maryland Chapter of National Coalition of 100 Black Women