



**Testimony to the Senate Finance Committee**  
**SB05: Maryland Health Benefit Exchange – State-Based Young Adult Health 3 Insurance**  
**Subsidies Pilot Program – Sunset Repeal**  
**Position: Favorable**

January 29, 2025

The Honorable Pam Beidle, Chair  
Senate Finance Committee  
3 East, Miller Senate Office Building  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
cc: Members, Senate Finance

Honorable Chair Beidle and members of the committee:

Economic Action Maryland Fund (formerly the Maryland Consumer Rights Coalition) is a statewide coalition of individuals and organizations that advances economic rights and equity for Maryland families through research, education, direct service, and advocacy. Our 12,500 supporters include consumer advocates, practitioners, and low-income and working families throughout Maryland.

We are here in support of SB05 which will establish health insurance subsidies for eligible young adults. Of the nearly 90,000 young adults enrolled in the Healthcare Exchange in 2024, 72% qualified for the young adult subsidy<sup>1</sup>. The program, which began as a pilot, provides subsidies to people 18 to 37 who make up to 400% of the federal poverty level.

Making the pilot program permanent provides affordable health insurance from young adults and also benefits the insurance pool with an influx of younger participants that lowers the costs for the pool.

For all these reasons, we support SB05 and urge a favorable report.

Best,

Marceline White  
Executive Director

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<https://marylandmatters.org/2025/01/18/more-black-hispanic-and-young-marylanders-enrolled-in-state-insurance-marketplace/>

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