



To: House Health and Government Operations Committee

Bill: House Bill 1538 – Maryland Medical Assistance Program - Maternal Health Monitoring Pilot Program

Date: March 13, 2025

Position: Favorable

The Maryland Academy of Physician Assistants (MdAPA) supports *House Bill 1538 – Maryland Medical Assistance Program - Maternal Health Monitoring Pilot Program*. The bill would create the Maternal Health Monitoring Pilot Program in the Maryland Department of Health to support pregnant and postpartum Maryland Medical Assistance Program recipients who have higher risks of pregnancy complications because of maternal hypertension or maternal diabetes. Participants of the program would have access to remote monitoring services during their second and third trimesters and for up to three months postpartum.

Both remote diabetes and hypertension monitoring offer promising approaches for managing these chronic conditions. Remote diabetes monitoring can lead to better glycemic control and improved maternal and neonatal outcomes compared to traditional paper-based methods.¹ Remote blood pressure monitoring for maternal hypertension, particularly in the postpartum period, offers a promising alternative to frequent clinic visits, potentially improving blood pressure control and reducing hospital readmissions.² These types of remote monitoring are safe and effective ways to support pregnant and postpartum people.

We ask for a favorable report. If we can provide any further information, please contact Robyn Elliott at relliott@policypartners.net.

¹ [https://www.ajog.org/article/S0002-9378\(23\)00116-3/abstract#:~:text=What%20does%20this%20add%20to%20what%20is,associated%20with%20improved%20maternal%20and%20neonatal%20outcomes](https://www.ajog.org/article/S0002-9378(23)00116-3/abstract#:~:text=What%20does%20this%20add%20to%20what%20is,associated%20with%20improved%20maternal%20and%20neonatal%20outcomes)

² <https://pmc.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/articles/PMC10232558/>