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February 20, 2025

The Honorable Joseline A. Peña-Melnyk
Chair, House Health and Government Operations Committee
241 Taylor House Office Building
6 Bladen St.
Annapolis, MD 21401

Re: Letter of Support with Amendments – HB 718 – Maryland Health Insurance Coverage Protection Commission - Established

Dear Chair Peña-Melnyk and Members of the House Health and Government Operations Committee,

The Maryland Health Benefit Exchange (MHBE) respectfully submits this letter of support with amendments for House Bill (HB) 718 – Maryland Health Insurance Coverage Protection Commission - Established.

MHBE is Maryland's state-designated health insurance marketplace, established in 2011 in accordance with the Federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (ACA) to improve the health and well-being of Marylanders by connecting them with high-quality, affordable health coverage.

We thank the Committee for the amendment to include MHBE under the Commission's membership as a critical stakeholder, and are prepared to contribute to the Commission's responsibilities as outlined under the bill - to monitor and provide recommendations to the State in response to any federal action that may jeopardize health coverage access and affordability measures established by the Affordable Care Act (ACA) and other federal programs.

For further discussions or questions on HB 718, please contact Johanna Fabian-Marks, Director of Policy and Plan Management at johanna.fabian-marks@maryland.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michele Eberle".

Michele Eberle
Executive Director