



**Committee:** House Health and Government Operations Committee

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

**Hearing Date:** March 13, 2025

**Position:** Support

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The Maryland Affiliate of the American College of Nurse Midwives (ACNM) supports *House Bill 1538 – Maryland Medical Assistance Program - Maternal Health Monitoring Pilot Program*. The establishes 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 will have access to remote monitoring services during their second and third trimesters and for up to 3 months postpartum.

About 42% of all births in the United States are covered by Medicaid and the rates of both hypertension and diabetes during pregnancy are increasing.<sup>1</sup> Remote monitoring is an established form of telehealth that can be beneficial to people during pregnancy and especially during the postpartum period when leaving home may be less convenient. Remote monitoring can lead to improved maternal and neonatal outcomes, reduce hospital readmissions, and enhance parent satisfaction. This Pilot Program is a good step in supporting people who are at risk for pregnancy complications from hypertension and diabetes.

We ask for a favorable report. If we can provide any further information, please contact Robyn Elliott at [relliott@policypartners.net](mailto:relliott@policypartners.net) or (443) 926-3443.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.medicaid.gov/medicaid/quality-of-care/quality-improvement-initiatives/maternal-infant-health-care-quality/index.html#:~:text=Nearly%20two%20out%20of%20every%20three%20adult,of%20all%20births%20in%20the%20United%20States>