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LETTER OF SUPPORT HOUSE BILL 718

February 18, 2025

Chair Peña-Melnyk:

On behalf of the LGBTQ+ Caucus, we are writing to express our support of **HB718: Maryland Health Insurance Coverage Protection Commission - Established**. As advocates and stewards of the LGBTQ+ community, we believe this bill will protect, strengthen, and secure LGBTQ+ rights for all LGBTQ+ residents. The benefits and effects of passing the proposed legislation will create a positive and long-lasting change for all of Maryland.

HB718 would establish the Maryland Health Insurance Coverage Protection Commission to monitor and assess the impact of potential and actual federal changes to specified healthcare programs. Commission findings will be recommended to the State and local authorities to protect Marylander's access and right to affordable healthcare. The bill ensures continuous monitoring and assessment of health care programs, safeguarding access to affordable health coverage for all residents, especially LGBTQ+ individuals who may have unique health care needs.

Thank you for considering the bill's positive effects on the LGBTQ+ community. Please contact us with any additional questions or concerns about the bill. We appreciate your efforts in fostering community and furthering rights for all Marylanders.

Respectfully,

Delegate Kris Fair
Chair