



February 2, 2026

Maryland Senate
Finance Committee
3 East Miller Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Dear Honorable Chair, Vice-Chair, and Members of the Committee:

On behalf of the pediatric nurse practitioners (PNPs) and fellow pediatric-focused advanced practice registered nurses (APRNs) of the National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners (NAPNAP) Maryland Chesapeake Chapter, we are writing to express our **support of SB 272 Health Insurance - Scalp Cooling Systems - Required Coverage.**

Cancer is an unfortunate reality for many children, adolescents, and young adults in Maryland. Among the many side effects of chemotherapy, hair loss stands out as a particularly distressing experience and often leads to feelings of anxiety, low self-esteem, and altered body image, exacerbating the psychological challenges already faced during treatment. Scalp cooling systems have been shown to be effective in reducing the incidence of chemotherapy-induced alopecia in pediatric patients. By cooling the scalp during treatment, these systems help constrict the blood vessels in the scalp, minimizing the absorption of chemotherapy agents that cause hair loss. By supporting HB 393, we can ensure that children in Maryland have access to important resources that promote not only their physical health but also their emotional well-being during an incredibly challenging time. Coverage for scalp cooling systems will alleviate some of the financial burdens on families, allowing them to focus on what matters most – their child's health and recovery. Moreover, providing coverage for these systems aligns with our commitment to comprehensive cancer care for children. It reflects an understanding that combating cancer is not only about treating the disease itself but also addressing the holistic needs of our young patients and their families.

For these reasons, the Maryland Chesapeake Chapter of NAPNAP extends their support of SB 272 Health Insurance - Scalp Cooling Systems - Required Coverage and requests a favorable report. The pediatric advanced practice nurses of your state are grateful to you for your attention to these crucial issues. The Maryland Chapter of NAPNAP membership includes over 200 primary and acute care pediatric nurse practitioners who are committed to improving the health and advocating for our state's pediatric patients. If we can be of any further assistance, or if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the Maryland Chapter legislative chair, Dr. JD Murphy, at mdchesnapnapleg@outlook.com.

Sincerely,

Dr. Jessica D. Murphy DNP, CPNP-AC, CPHON, CNE
Maryland Chapter Legislative Chair

Dr. Evgenia Ogorodova DNP, CPNP-PC
Chapter Legislative Co-Chair

Dr. Yvette Laboy DNP, CPNP-AC,
CCRN, CPN; Chapter President

Ms. Lindsay Ward MSN, CPNP-PC,
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