

HB0529_RichardKaplowitz_FAV

02/17/2026

Richard Keith Kaplowitz

Frederick, MD 21703

TESTIMONY ON HB#0529 POSITION: FAVORABLE

Code Revision - Health - Maryland Medical Assistance Program

TO: Chair Bagnall, Vice Chair Cullison, and members of the Health Committee

FROM: Richard Keith Kaplowitz

My name is Richard Keith Kaplowitz. I am a resident of District 3, Frederick County. I am submitting this testimony in support of HB#/0529, **Code Revision - Health - Maryland Medical Assistance Program**

This bill adds a statement “AND AS PERMITTED BY FEDERAL LAW” to the text of the existing law governing Medical Assistance in Maryland. This is forced on the state by the One Big Beautiful Bill Act passed in 2025. As discussed by the American Medical Association post from February 9, 2026, *Changes to Medicaid, the ACA and other key provisions of the One Big Beautiful Bill Act*¹

The [One Big Beautiful Bill Act of 2025 \(OBBBA\)](#), the massive budget reconciliation bill implementing many of the administration’s top legislative priorities, was signed into law ([Public Law 119-21](#)) on July 4, 2025. The law includes significant funding cuts and policy changes to Medicaid and the Health Insurance Marketplaces, Medicare physician payment and medical student loans, among other health care related items, all of which will worsen patient access to care.

Some of the key provisions include:

- **Medicaid.**
- **Access to health insurance coverage through the Affordable Care Act (ACA) marketplaces.**
- **Federal support of medical student loans.**
- **Medicare physician payment reform.**

This bill will revise, restate, and recodify the laws of this State relating to the Maryland Medical Assistance Program in response to these cutbacks in the medical social safety net forced by this Federal Administration.

I respectfully urge this committee to return a favorable report on HB#/0529.

¹ <https://www.ama-assn.org/health-care-advocacy/federal-advocacy/changes-medicaid-aca-and-other-key-provisions-one-big-beautiful-bill-act>:text=OBBBA%20creates%20new%20administrative%20requirements,Medicare%20physician%20payment%20reform.