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MARYLAND CITIZENS' HEALTH INITIATIVE

TESTIMONY IN FAVOR OF SENATE BILL 716

Before the Senate Finance Committee

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Madam Chair and Members of the Committee, thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of Senate Bill 716, which will create a Maryland Council on Health in All Policies. Thank you to Senator Augustine for sponsoring SB 716 and for your support of public health measures in the 2019 session. The Health in All Policies approach addresses the social determinants of health that are key drivers of health outcomes and health inequities. It is a collaborative approach to improving the health of all Marylanders by incorporating health considerations into decision-making across sectors and policy areas.¹ This important Council will be able to carry out recommendations made the Health in All Policies Workgroup, including developing a Framework for Maryland.² Thank you for your efforts toward quality, affordable health care for all Marylanders. We urge a favorable report from the Committee on Senate Bill 716.

¹ American Public Health Association. "An Introduction to Health In All Policies: A guide for State and Local Governments." https://www.apha.org/-/media/files/pdf/factsheets/health_inall_policies_guide_169pages.ashx?la=en&hash=641B94AF624D7440F836238F0551A5FFODE4872A

² Senate Bill 340/ House Bill 1225: University of Maryland School of Public health, Center for Health Equity, Workgroup on Health in All Policies. September 30th, 2019 Report. [https://www.google.com/url?sa=t&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=web&cd=1&ved=2ahUKEwip8cH768znAhW3mHIEHdmpCdUQFiAAegQIAhAB&url=https%3A%2F%2Fsph.umd.edu%2Fsites%2Fdefault%2Ffiles%2Fimages%2FSept%252030t%25202019%2520HiAP%2520Report_Final%2520\(1\).pdf&usg=AOvVaw3WYfRSgzyR7eKdFmkgwkOQ](https://www.google.com/url?sa=t&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=web&cd=1&ved=2ahUKEwip8cH768znAhW3mHIEHdmpCdUQFiAAegQIAhAB&url=https%3A%2F%2Fsph.umd.edu%2Fsites%2Fdefault%2Ffiles%2Fimages%2FSept%252030t%25202019%2520HiAP%2520Report_Final%2520(1).pdf&usg=AOvVaw3WYfRSgzyR7eKdFmkgwkOQ)