



Committee: Senate Finance Committee
Bill Number: Senate Bill 729
Title: Maryland Health Benefit Exchange – State- Based Young Adult Health Insurance Subsidies Pilot Program
Hearing Date: March 3, 2021
Position: Support

The Maryland Affiliate of the American College of Nurse Midwives (ACNM) supports *Senate Bill 729 – Maryland Health Benefit Exchange – State- Based Young Adult Health Insurance Subsidies Pilot Program*. This bill would establish a subsidy program, focusing on young adults who have lower rates of coverage than other adults.

ACNM supports initiatives to make coverage more affordable for all individuals. While some young adults may have the option to stay on a parent's policy, this option is not available to everyone. This legislation would support young adults, whether in school or working, in obtaining health insurance coverage. Because young adults tend to be healthier, this bill could also decrease the level of risk in the pool of people insured through the Maryland Health Benefit Exchange, and thereby make the insurance more affordable for everyone.

We ask for a favorable report so that more young adults can access health care. If we can provide any additional information, please contact Suhani Chitalia at schitalia@policypartners.net or (240) 506-9325.