



# END MEDICAL DEBT MARYLAND

## Medical Debt Protection Act / SB0514 Official Testimony Position: **FAVORABLE**

To Chair Kelley and Members of the Senate Finance Committee,

My name is Sunny, and I'm a Halethorpe resident and a member of the End Medical Debt Maryland Coalition. I support SB0514, the Medical Debt Protection Act, and I ask the Committee to issue a favorable report.

The Medical Debt Protection Act will protect low and middle-income households from punitive medical debt lawsuits. It will prohibit medical debt lawsuits for \$1000 or under, require income-based repayment plans, and prevent wage garnishments and liens on homes over medical debt. I believe that passing of this bill is essential because both my family and myself have suffered due to medical expense and medical debt issues. What should be small or routine injuries and ailments become major stressors for us as healthcare costs grow and the fear of medical debt looms. Knowing thousands of others suffer like us just make this bill more urgent.

I respectfully urge this committee to issue a favorable report on SB0514: The Medical Debt Protection Act, with no amendments that water-down the bill.

Sincerely,

Sunny Kanneganti  
GBDSA member, End Medical Debt Maryland Coalition  
Halethorpe, MD