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Senate Bill 615 - Pharmacy Benefits Managers - Prohibited Actions

OPPOSE

Senate Finance Committee February 24, 2021

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in opposition to Senate Bill 615 – Pharmacy Benefits Managers - Prohibited Actions.

The Maryland Managed Care Organization Association's (MMCOA) nine member Medicaid Managed Care Organizations (MCOs) that serve over 1.3 million Marylanders through the Medicaid HealthChoice program are committed to identifying ways to improve quality and access to care for all Medicaid participants.

The MCOs are regulated by the Maryland Department of Health with a focus on ensuring high quality care and cost effectiveness. While we applaud the sponsor's efforts, access and quality provisionsincluding recently enacted regulations- were adopted by MDH to improve the experience of pharmacists in the Medicaid program. We believe that this legislation may undermine those processes recently adopted by MDH to address pharmacist's concerns regarding participation in the HealthChoice program. For these reasons, we respectfully urge an unfavorable report on Senate Bill 615.

The MMCOA looks forward to continued collaboration with the State as we work to identify ways to improve access to affordable highquality care for all Medicaid participants.

Please contact Jennifer Briemann, Executive Director of MMCOA, with any questions regarding this testimony at jbriemann@marylandmco.org.