



MARYLAND CITIZENS' HEALTH INITIATIVE

**TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HOUSE BILL 393**

Maryland Office of the Inspector General for Health

Before the Health and Government Operations Committee

By Stephanie Klapper, Deputy Director, Maryland Citizens' Health Initiative, Inc.

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Chairman Pendergrass and Members of the Health and Government Operations Committee, thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of House Bill 393, which would establish an Office of the Inspector General for Health as a weapon against waste, fraud and abuse in the health care industry.

Every dollar wasted in the provision of health care is a dollar that cannot be spent on providing health care to those that need it. In other segments of government, inspectors general have been very successful in discovering instances of waste, fraud, and abuse, that have saved substantial sums of funds.

Please give House Bill 393 a favorable report to help move our state further toward ensuring quality, affordable health care for all Marylanders.