



**TESTIMONY FOR HB1148  
SECRETARY OF HEALTH – SCHOOL–BASED HEALTH CENTERS – GUIDELINES AND  
ADMINISTRATION OF GRANTS**

**Bill Sponsor:** Delegate Cullison

**Committee:** Health and Government Operations

**Organization Submitting:** Maryland Legislative Coalition

**Person Submitting:** Cecilia Plante, co-chair

**Position:** FAVORABLE

I am submitting this testimony in favor of HB1148 on behalf of the Maryland Legislative Coalition. The Maryland Legislative Coalition is an association of activists - individuals and grassroots groups in every district in the state. We are unpaid citizen lobbyists, and our Coalition supports well over 30,000 members.

Our members support the expansion of school-based health centers. In Maryland, schools currently have a nurse available to support the health of the children in the school and treat their non-emergency illnesses. Expanding these non-emergency health services to the rest of the families of those children would help communities all over the state to have access to locally-available, non-urgent care that we already have the infrastructure for. It is a forward-thinking use of existing assets and our members would like to see these guidelines written as soon as possible, so that school-based health care centers can expand their services to local communities.

The Maryland Legislative Coalition supports this bill and we recommend a **FAVORABLE** report in Committee.