



Maryland Community Health System

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| Committee: | Senate Finance Committee |
| Bill: | Senate Bill 621 - Health Insurance – Changes to Coverage, Benefits, and Drug Formularies – Timing |
| Hearing Date: | March 2, 2022 |
| Position: | Support |

Maryland Community Health System supports *Senate Bill 621 – Health Insurance – Changes to Coverage, Benefits, and Drug Formularies – Timing*. The bill prohibits state-regulated private plans from removing or making changes to coverage for prescription drug benefits during the plan year.

Maryland Community Health System is a network of federally qualified health centers focused on providing somatic, behavioral health, and dental services to underserved communities. We support this legislation because it promotes continuity of care for our patients. If carriers remove a drug or make changes to cost-sharing requirement during the plan year, our patients may be forced to pay more out-of-pocket. Many of our patients have limited resources and unexpected out-of-pocket expenses can be challenging. Patients may have selected the plan specifically because it provided coverage for their medication regimen, and it is unfair to change that coverage before the end of the plan year.

We ask for a favorable report. If we can be helpful in any way, please let us know by contacting Robyn Elliott at relliott@policypartners.net.