



**Committee:** Senate Budget and Taxation Committee

**Bill:** Senate Bill 621 - Health Insurance – Changes to Coverage, Benefits, and Drug Formularies – Timing

**Hearing Date:** March 2, 2022

**Position:** Support

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The Maryland Nurses Association (MNA) supports *Senate Bill 621 – Health Insurance – Changes to Coverage, Benefits, and Drug Formularies – Timing*. The bill would prohibit private insurers from removing a drug or changing copayment requirements during the plan year. Consumers, particularly those with complex medical needs, often pick their insurance plans based on drug coverage. If there are changes mid-year, consumers may not be able to afford the resulting unexpected out-of-pocket costs for their medications. This means that they will have to return to their providers to identify which medications are covered under their plan, and this process can be time-consuming, add to medical costs, and disrupt continuity of care.

We ask for a favorable report on this legislation. If we can provide additional information, please contact Robyn Elliott at [relliott@policypartners.net](mailto:relliott@policypartners.net).