



MDDCSAM is the Maryland state chapter of the American Society of Addiction Medicine whose members are physicians and other health providers who treat people with substance use disorders.

SB 728 Health Insurance – Qualified Resident State Subsidy Program (Access to Care Act)
Senate Finance Committee. March 2, 2022

FAVORABLE

Maryland is home to 443,489 noncitizens (7.3% of the state's population) who currently receive little to no healthcare services. As a result, these Marylanders have high rates of preventable illness, and hospitalizations.

Undocumented families pay over \$240M in federal, state, and local taxes; most would otherwise meet the ACA eligibility requirements.

Every person deserves access to lifesaving medical care. **Multiple other states have established comprehensive programs to extend coverage to immigrants** regardless of their immigration status.

This legislation would prevent many unnecessary emergency room visits and hospitalizations. Vaccinations would help prevent the spread of infectious diseases.

Healthcare is a human right.

Respectfully,

Joseph A. Adams, MD, FASAM, Chair, Public Policy Committee