



Peter Franchot
Comptroller

TESTIMONY OF COMPTROLLER PETER FRANCHOT
Support - House Bill 952 - Access to Abortion Care and Health Insurance Act
Health and Government Operations Committee
February 22, 2022

Chair Pendergrass, Vice Chair Pena-Melnyk, and members of the Committee, it is my pleasure to provide testimony in **support** of **House Bill 952 - Access to Abortion Care and Health Insurance Act**. I would like to thank Delegate Kelly for sponsoring this important legislation, and the Committee for providing the opportunity for my testimony to be heard.

Abortion care is healthcare, and the right to choose should not just be for the rich, the wealthy, and the powerful. House Bill 952 would require insurance providers including the Maryland Medical Assistance Program, more commonly known as Medicaid, cover abortion care costs without charging patients deductibles, copays, or any other cost-sharing method. This would ensure that regardless of income, all Marylanders have access to affordable care. Women should not be denied this important economic, social and health-oriented right to care over cost concerns.

For the reasons stated above, I respectfully request a favorable report for House Bill 952. Thank you for your time and consideration.

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