



Maryland Community Health System

Committee: House Health and Government Operations Committee
Bill Number: House Bill 534
Title: Maryland Medical Assistance Program - Self-Measured Blood Pressure Monitoring
Hearing Date: February 9, 2022
Position: Support

The Maryland Community Health System supports *House Bill 534 – Maryland Medical Assistance Program – Self-Monitored Blood Pressure*. The bill requires the Maryland Medical Assistance Program to reimburse for self-monitoring blood pressure equipment and clinical follow-up for individuals with uncontrolled hypertension.

As a network of federally qualified health centers, we focus on serving underserved communities and are the primary provider of health care services for many Medicaid participants. Clinicians and patients can work together to manage hypertension effectively when patients have self-monitoring blood pressure equipment at home. This legislation empowers patients, promotes patient-centered care, and improves clinical outcomes. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has recommended the use of self-monitored blood pressure equipment along with clinical follow-up to prevent heart disease and stroke.ⁱ

We urge a favorable report this legislation. If we can provide any further information, please contact Robyn Elliott at relliott@policypartners.net.

ⁱ <https://www.cdc.gov/dhbsp/pubs/guides/best-practices/smbp.htm>