

330 N. Howard Street Baltimore, MD 21201 (410) 576-1400 www.plannedparenthood.org/maryland

Planned Parenthood of Maryland

Committee: Health and Government Operations

Bill Number: House Bill 1080

Title: Maryland Medical Assistance Program – Children and Pregnant Women

(Healthy Babies Equity Act)

Hearing: March 2, 2022

Position: Support

Planned Parenthood of Maryland supports *Maryland Medical Assistance Program – Children and Pregnant Women (Healthy Babies Equity Act).* HB 1080 would expand eligibility for prenatal care through Medicaid to all pregnant people, regardless of immigration status, and would cover care for 12 months postpartum for the pregnant person and child.

Planned Parenthood of Maryland is one of the largest providers of reproductive healthcare in the state. Our reproductive healthcare services include wellness visits, pregnancy testing and options counseling, and prenatal care referrals. We frequently provide care to low-income, undocumented individuals who are forced to pay out-of-pocket for basic healthcare services.

We want all people who want to be pregnant to have access to the prenatal and postpartum care they need. This legislation will improve the health and well-being of undocumented people and their families.

We ask for a favorable vote on this legislation. If we can provide any additional information, please contact Robyn Elliott at (443) 926-3443 or relliott@policypartners.net.