

Committee:	House Ways and Means Committee
Bill Number:	House Bill 364 - Sales and Use Tax - Medical Devices - Exemption
Hearing Date:	February 2, 2022
Position:	Support

The Maryland Nurses Association (MNA) supports *House Bill 354 – Sales and Use Tax – Medical Devices – Exemption.* The bill would create a sales tax exemption for medical and clinical thermometers, pulse oximeters, and blood pressure monitors.

Maryland already exempts many other medical products, such as over-the-counter medications and breastfeeding supplies, from the sales tax. This legislation recognizes the importance of medical equipment that patients use at home in chronic disease management. With the expansion of the use of telehealth, patients are more often at home for their clinical appointments, so at-home equipment has become more important. This equipment is often not covered by insurance.

We urge a favorable report. If we can provide any additional information, please contact Robyn Elliott at <u>relliott@policypartners.net</u>.