



**MMCOA
Board of Directors**

Senate Bill 534 – Preserve Telehealth Access Act of 2023

President
Kathlyn Wee
CEO
UnitedHealthcare
of the Mid-Atlantic, Inc.

FAVORABLE

**Senate Finance Committee
February 22, 2023**

*Vice President/
Secretary*
Vincent M. Ancona
President
Wellpoint

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this testimony in support of Senate Bill 534- Preserve Telehealth Access Act of 2023.

Treasurer
Edward Kumian
CEO
Priority Partners MCO, Inc.

The Maryland Managed Care Organization Association's (MMCOA) nine member Medicaid MCOs that serve over 1.5 million Marylanders through the Medicaid HealthChoice program are committed to identifying ways to improve quality and access to care for all Medicaid participants.

Angelo D. Edge
CEO
Aetna Better Health

The COVID-19 pandemic gave rise to a sharp increase in the number of Medicaid HealthChoice members accessing care through telehealth services. As we continue to plan for the efficient delivery of care via telehealth after the expiration of the public health emergency, special consideration needs to be given to the unique needs of Marylanders served by HealthChoice MCOs, including technological, transportation, geographic, and translation/linguistic concerns. Maryland's MCOs continue to support the development and implementation of telehealth policy that results in positive health outcomes for HealthChoice members.

Mike Rapach
President & CEO
CareFirst Community
Health Plan Maryland

MMCOA supports the continued access to audio-only delivery of telehealth services, provided that the delivery is clinically appropriate and that MCOs and health care providers have discretion in determining effectiveness of this modality, given the medical needs of the patient and the services delivered.

Jai Seunarine
CEO
Jai Medical Systems

For these reasons, we respectfully request a favorable report on Senate Bill 534.

Shannon McMahon
*Executive Director, Medicaid
Policy*
Kaiser Permanente - Mid-
Atlantic States

Jason Rottman
CEO
Maryland Physicians Care

Lesley Wallace
Executive Director
MedStar Family Choice, Inc.

Please contact Jennifer Briemann, Executive Director of MMCOA, with any questions regarding this testimony at jbriemann@marylandmco.org.