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To: Senate Finance Committee

Bill: Senate Bill 806 - Maryland Health Benefit Exchange and Maryland Department of Health - Health Care Coverage for Undocumented Immigrants - Report

Hearing Date: March 8, 2023

Position: Support with Amendments

The Maryland Dental Action Coalition strongly supports *Senate Bill 806 – Maryland Health Benefit Exchange and Maryland Department of Health Coverage for Undocumented Immigrants – Report*. The bill requires a report on the different options to extend coverage to individuals who are undocumented. Maryland took a significant step forward with immigrant coverage when the Maryland General Assembly enacted *The Maryland Healthy Babies Act*. Set to begin in July 2023, Medicaid will cover the full range of Medicaid services, including dental, for undocumented immigrants who are pregnant.

We would request an amendment to clarify that dental coverage will also be included in the report. Under the Maryland Health Benefit Exchange, the term “qualified health plan” does not include the stand-alone dental plans offered on the Exchange:

On page 1 in line 24, insert “stand alone dental plans” after “qualified health plans”.

Thank you for your consideration of this amendment. We look forward to working on this issue. If we can provide any additional information, please contact Robyn Elliott at relliott@policypartners.net.

Optimal Oral Health for All Marylanders