



Mission: To improve public health in Maryland through education and advocacy ***Vision:*** Healthy Marylanders living in Healthy Communities

**TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HOUSE BILL 111
Maryland Medical Assistance Program, Maryland Children’s Health Program, and Social
Services Programs – Eligibility and Enrollment
Before the House Health and Government Operations Committee
By: Maryland Public Health Association (MdPHA)
February 7, 2023**

Chair Peña-Melnyk and Members of the House HGO Committee, thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of House Bill 111. This bill would automatically grant Medicaid eligibility to children and adults enrolled in SNAP.

Based on [Census Bureau data for 2021](#),¹ it would help over 60,000 uninsured Marylanders get the health coverage they need, including 23,000 Black Marylanders and 28,000 Latinos, making this a way to dramatically reduce the levels of uninsured in Maryland while at the same time improving health equity. This legislation would also eliminate paperwork currently required for over half a million SNAP recipients in Maryland to renew their Medicaid benefits, creating administrative savings for Maryland. In addition, this bill would improve other social determinants of health by streamlining utility assistance enrollment, expanding access to electric assistance, and automatically enrolling seniors into SNAP if they qualify for Supplemental Security Income. Thank you for your consideration and we urge a favorable report for HB 111.

The Maryland Public Health Association (MdPHA) is a nonprofit, statewide organization of public health professionals dedicated to improving the lives of all Marylanders through education, advocacy, and collaboration. We support public policies consistent with our vision of healthy Marylanders living in healthy, equitable, communities. MdPHA is the state affiliate of the American Public Health Association, a nearly 145-year-old professional organization dedicated to improving population health and reducing the health disparities that plague our state and our nation.

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¹ Ipums usa. (n.d.). Retrieved January 30, 2023, from <https://usa.ipums.org/usa/>