



**Committee:** House Health and Government Operations Committee

**Bill:** HB 588

**Title:** Health Insurance - Qualified Resident Enrollment Program (Access to Care Act)

**Hearing Date:** February 23, 2023

**Position:** Support

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The Maryland Assembly on School-Based Health Care (MASBHC) supports *House Bill 588 – Health Insurance - Qualified Resident Enrollment Program (Access to Care Act)*. The bill advances health equity for the immigrant community. Immigrants who are undocumented work and contribute to our tax base, yet they are ineligible for coverage under the Maryland Health Benefit Exchange. Maryland took a step forward and extended coverage to undocumented pregnant immigrants with the Healthy Babies Act of 2022. There are 8 states – California, D.C. Illinois, Maine, New York, Oregon, Rhode Island, Vermont, and Washington – that extend state-funded coverage to undocumented children who meet income threshold requirements. Several states have recently extended coverage to some undocumented adults. <sup>1</sup>

Thank you for your consideration of our testimony, and we urge a favorable report. If we can provide any additional information, contact Robyn Elliott at [relliott@policypartners.net](mailto:relliott@policypartners.net) or (443) 926-3443.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.kff.org/racial-equity-and-health-policy/fact-sheet/health-coverage-and-care-of-immigrants/>