

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 HGO Committee

Dr. David Myles

February 7, 2023

Chair Griffith and Members of the Senate Finance Committee, I am writing to you today in support of House Bill 111. As a pediatrician, I am deeply committed to finding ways to ensure that the children in our state have access to quality, affordable health care, and Medicaid coverage is an essential tool to achieving this goal. With the end of public health emergency, states now face an unwinding process of continuous Medicaid enrollment, leaving many children at risk of losing coverage due to procedural disenrollment. It is important that Maryland works to reduce this administrative “churn,” to ensure that our most vulnerable populations are not hurt by unnecessary disenrollment. This bill would automatically grant Medicaid eligibility to children and adults enrolled in SNAP, streamlining the process by eliminating paperwork currently required for over half a million SNAP recipients in Maryland. Additionally, based on [Census Bureau data for 2021](#), it would help over 60,000 currently 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. Not only does this legislation provide administrative savings to the state, but it is a common-sense way to protect the pediatric patients I see from unnecessary loss of coverage.

Thank you for your consideration and I urge a favorable report for HB 111.