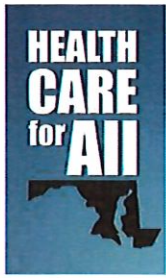**TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HOUSE BILL 279**
Prescription Drug Affordability Board – Upper Payment Limits
Before the House Health and Government Operations Committee
By Vincent DeMarco, President, Maryland Health Care For All Coalition
February 2, 2023

Madam Chair and Members of the HGO Committee, on behalf of the over 450 faith, community, labor, business and health care organizations which are part of our Maryland Health Care For All Coalition working to make high cost drugs more affordable for Marylanders, we strongly urge you to support HB 279. This legislation makes clear the intent of the landmark Prescription Drug Affordability Board law which you enacted in 2019 that the PDAB Board, with the approval of the Legislative Policy Committee, has the authority to use upper payment limits to make high cost drugs more affordable for state and local governments in Maryland. We are very pleased with the terrific progress which the PDAB has made under the able leadership of Chair Van Mitchell and we believe that this legislation before you today will help them do their very important and life-saving work. Thank you so much Delegate Cullison for introducing this measure and we thank you, the Committee Chair, and all the Members of this Committee for your leadership on this issue which has made our PDAB legislation a model for other states across the country.

HEALTH CARE for ALL

1199 SEIU United Healthcare Workers East — Maryland Division

AARP Real Possibilities in Maryland

ACP Maryland Chapter — American College of Physicians, Leading Internal Medicine, Improving Lives

primary care coalition

MARYLAND Association of COUNTIES

MedChi — The Maryland State Medical Society

ADVOCATES FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH

Maryland Public Health Association (MdPHA.org)

AHF — AIDS HEALTHCARE FOUNDATION

MARYLAND ACADEMY OF FAMILY PHYSICIANS

JCRC — JEWISH COMMUNITY RELATIONS COUNCIL OF GREATER WASHINGTON

CENTRAL MARYLAND ECUMENICAL COUNCIL

FAMILIES USA — THE VOICE FOR HEALTH CARE CONSUMER

NAACP FOUNDED 1909 — NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE

SOUTH COUNTY DEMOCRATIC CLUB

LSPC

MD/DC State Council SEIU — stronger together.

TWW — TOGETHER WE WILL

CASH CAMPAIGN OF MARYLAND

GBCONS — GREATER BALTIMORE CHAPTER ONCOLOGY NURSING SOCIETY

THE MARYLAND ACADEMY OF ADVANCED PRACTICE CLINICIANS

AFSCME 3

LEGISLATIVE BLACK CAUCUS OF MARYLAND, INC. EST. 1970

ACR

The Arc. Maryland

NARAL Pro-Choice Maryland

Maryland Legislative Agenda for Women

DOCTORS FOR AMERICA

Maryland PIRG — Standing Up To Powerful Interests

MARYLAND NONPROFITS

JOTF — JOB OPPORTUNITIES TASK FORCE — ADVOCATING BETTER SKILLS, JOBS, AND INCOMES

CENTRO SOL — JOHNS HOPKINS

LATINO PUBLIC HEALTH NETWORK — Bloomberg School of Public Health

MARYLAND WORKING WF FAMILIES

Consumer Health First — Access • Quality • Equity

Delaware Maryland SYNOD — EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

CCAN — CHESAPEAKE CLIMATE ACTION NETWORK

FreeState JUSTICE

MDCEP — MARYLAND CENTER ON ECONOMIC POLICY

WISE

UNITED SENIORS OF MARYLAND

PUBLIC CITIZEN

MCRC — MARYLAND CONSUMER RIGHTS COALITION

UNITE HERE! LOCAL 7

PROGRESSIVE MARYLAND

Abilities Network — SEEING ABILITIES NOT DISABILITIES.

Greater Baltimore Urban League

DYNAMIC HEALTHCARE

PRO BONO COUNSELING PROJECT

BALTIMORE JEWISH COUNCIL

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST LEGISLATIVE MINISTRY of Maryland

Central Atlantic Conference

Public Justice Center

MINISTERS CONFERENCE OF BALTIMORE & VICINITY

NASW — MARYLAND CHAPTER — National Association of Social Workers

Planned Parenthood — Care. No matter what. — Planned Parenthood of Maryland

IMAGE — Independent Marylanders Achieving Growth through Empowerment

Women's Law Center of Maryland

BRIDGE

JOHNS HOPKINS SCIENCE POLICY GROUP

MDE — MOVEMENT DISORDER — EDUCATION • EXERCISE

NCADD MARYLAND

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY MARYLAND

COMMUNITY LAW CENTER — LAWYERS FOR NEIGHBORHOODS AND NONPROFITS

Council 67 AFSCME — We Make Maryland Happen

JEWS UNITED FOR JUSTICE — THINK JEWISHLY. ACT LOCALLY.

msea — maryland state education association

YP-CDN — Young Professionals Chronic Disease Network Baltimore Chapter

amsa — American Medical Student Association
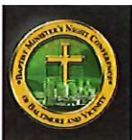
THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH — Baltimore-Washington Conference

THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF MARYLAND

MRSPA — MARYLAND RETIRED SCHOOL PERSONNEL ASSOCIATION

DHHS MONTGOMERY COUNTY Department of Health and Human Services

WOMEN'S ALLIANCE FOR DEMOCRACY & JUSTICE

Disability Rights Maryland

MaCCRA — Maryland Continuing Care Residents Association — The Voice of CCRC Residents

MCYD — MONTGOMERY COUNTY YOUNG DEMOCRATS

INDIVISIBLE NORTH BALTIMORE COUNTY

HEALTH DEPARTMENT CITY OF BALTIMORE MARYLAND

PHARMACISTS UNITED FOR TRUTH AND TRANSPARENCY

PROGRESSIVE NATIONAL BAPTIST CONVENTION INC. — FELLOWSHIP PROGRESS SERVICE PEACE

DO THE MOST GOOD

CASA — WE ARE CASA — SOMOS CASA

COLLECTIVE EMPOWERMENT GROUP INC.

BCASCO — Senior Power

F.A.C.E. ADDICTION MARYLAND — FAMILY ADVOCATES COALITION TO

DISABILITY SUPPORT SERVICES