



Date: March 21, 2023

To: The Honorable Joseline Pena-Melnyk, Chair

From: Aliyah N. Horton, FASAE, CAE, Executive Director, MPhA, 240-688-7808

Cc: Health and Government Operations Committee

Re: **FAVORABLE - SB 678** – Health Insurance – Reimbursement for Services Rendered by a Pharmacist

- The Maryland Pharmacists Association (MPhA) recommends a FAVORABLE report for SB 678, Health Insurance – Reimbursement for Services Rendered by a Pharmacist.
- The bill requires Maryland Medical Assistance Program, Maryland Children’s Health Program, certain insurers, non-profit health service plans and health maintenance organization to provide coverage for all services rendered to an enrollee by a licensed pharmacist within the pharmacist’s lawful scope of practice, to the same extent as services rendered by any other health care practitioner, regardless of practice setting.
- As amended, the bill maintains the intent of the original bill and addresses concerns raised by stakeholders, specifically the insurer community and the Maryland Insurance Administration.
- SB 678 mirrors HB 1151, sponsored by Committee Member, Del. Harry Bhandari, which was approved unanimously by the Committee and by the House of Delegates.
- MPhA and the Maryland Pharmacy Coalition urge the Committee to provide a favorable report for SB 678 to support a pathway for the bill content to ultimately be signed into law.
- Founded in 1882, MPhA is the only state-wide professional society representing all practicing pharmacists, pharmacy technicians and student pharmacists in Maryland. Our mission is to strengthen the profession of pharmacy, advocate for all Maryland pharmacists and promote excellence in pharmacy practice.
- Maryland Pharmacy Coalition:
 - Full members:**
 - Maryland Pharmacists Association
 - American Society of Consultant Pharmacists - Maryland Chapter
 - Maryland Pharmaceutical Society
 - Maryland Society of Health System Pharmacists
 - University of Maryland Baltimore School of Pharmacy Student Government Association
 - University of Maryland Eastern Shore School of Pharmacy Student Government Association
 - Notre Dame of Maryland University School of Pharmacy Student Government Association
 - Affiliate members:**
 - University of Maryland Baltimore School of Pharmacy
 - University of Maryland Eastern Shore School of Pharmacy
 - Notre Dame of Maryland University School of Pharmacy
 - Maryland Association of Chain Drug Stores