



Committee: House Health and Government Operations Committee

Bill: HB 588 - Health Insurance - Qualified Resident Enrollment Program
(Access to Care Act)

Hearing Date: February 23, 2023

Position: Support

The Maryland Nurses Association (MNA) supports House Bill 588 – *Health Insurance – Qualified Resident Enrollment Program*. The bill establishes a pathway and state-funded subsidy program to support coverage for people who do not meet criteria to enroll in a qualified health plan because of immigration status.

It has been a longstanding resolution of the American Nurses Association that all individuals living in the U.S., including documented and undocumented immigrants, deserve access to health care; and our organizations educate nurses regarding the wide-ranging social, economic, and political ramifications of undocumented immigrants’ lack of access to healthcare services. We affirm the dignity of all people irrespective of their life situation and support this bill in advocating for change in health policies which affect accessibility, quality, and cost of health care.ⁱ

We ask for a favorable report. If we can provide any additional information, please contact Robyn Elliott at relliott@policypartners.net or (443) 926-3443.

ⁱ https://www.nursingworld.org/~4af0ba/globalassets/docs/ana/ethics/nursing-without-borders_-_access-to-care-for-immigrants.pdf