



Committee: House Health and Government Operations Committee

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

Hearing Date: February 23, 2023

Position: Support

The American College of Nurse Midwives (ACNM) supports *House Bill 588 - Health Insurance - Qualified Resident Enrollment Program (Access to Care Act)*. The bill is important to continue Maryland's progress in lowering the rate of uninsured. There are communities who do not qualify for coverage assistance under federal rules. This legislation would create a state subsidy program to make insurance premiums more affordable under the Maryland Health Benefit Exchange for qualified applicants. Insurance coverage would improve access to care and help Maryland address health disparities. For example, Maryland's maternal mortality rates reflects a widening gap between White non-Hispanic women and women of other backgrounds.ⁱ

If we can provide any additional information to support this bill, please contact us through Robyn Elliott at relliott@policypartners.net. We ask for a favorable report on this bill.

ⁱ <https://health.maryland.gov/phpa/mch/Documents/MMR/HG%20%C2%A7C2%A72013-1207%2013-1208%20and%20%C2%A713-1212%20-%20Maryland%20Maternal%20Mortality%20Review%202020.pdf>