



Committee: Senate Finance Committee

Bill Number: SB 705 – Health Insurance - Qualified Resident Enrollment Program (Access to Care Act)

Hearing Date: February 21, 2024

Position: Support

Moveable Feast strongly supports *Senate Bill 705 – Health Insurance - Qualified Resident Enrollment Program (Access to Care Act)*. The bill would allow people who are undocumented to purchase health insurance from the Maryland Health Benefit Exchange. They would be required to use their own earnings.

Moveable Feast supports removing barriers to obtaining health insurance. It is likely a more daunting process for people who are not English-speaking or who have not been able to purchase insurance before. The Maryland Health Benefit Exchange is already set-up to support people navigating the process of purchasing insurance. The bill would allow people who are not documented to benefit from the expertise of navigators on the Exchange.

There is no fiscal note for the bill, yet there are significant upsides for Maryland’s health care system. People who can access health care services are more likely to get preventative care and avoid serious illnesses.

We ask for a favorable report. If we can provide any further information, please contact Robyn Elliott at relliott@policypartners.net.