

MOTA Maryland Occupational Therapy Association

PO Box 36401, Towson, Maryland 21286 ♦ mota-members.com

Committee:	Senate Finance Committee
Bill Number:	Senate Bill 705
Title:	Health Insurance - Qualified Resident Enrollment Program (Access to Care Act)
Hearing Date:	February 21, 2024
Position:	Support

The Maryland Occupational Therapy Association (MOTA) supports *Senate Bill 705 – Health Insurance - Qualified Resident Enrollment Program (Access to Care Act)*. The bill establishes a pathway for people to get access to health insurance through the Maryland Health Benefit Exchange who currently do not meet the criteria to enroll in a qualified health plan because of immigration status.

Occupational therapists understand the importance of accessible healthcare for all individuals, regardless of their immigration status. Occupational therapists recognize the need to support and advocate for the rights of these individuals to purchase health insurance. By allowing qualified individuals to access health insurance on the Maryland Health Benefit Exchange, occupational therapists believe that it will lead to better health outcomes for this population. Access to healthcare services enables individuals to receive necessary medical treatments and preventive care, improving their overall well-being and quality of life. Occupational therapists understand that everyone deserves the opportunity to live a healthy and productive life, and supporting the inclusion of qualified individuals in the health insurance system is a step towards achieving this goal.

We ask for a favorable report. If we can provide any further information, please contact Michael Paddy at <u>mpaddy@policypartners.net</u>.