



TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB0705

Access to Care Act

Requiring the Maryland Health Benefit Exchange to establish and implement the Qualified Resident Enrollment Program to facilitate the enrollment of qualified residents in qualified plans providing that the operation and administration of the Program may include functions delegated by the Maryland Exchange to a third party; and providing that the implementation of the Program is contingent on approval of a certain waiver application amendment

FAVORABLE

DATE February 20, 2024

TO: Chair Senator Pamela Beidle, Vice Chair Senator Katherine Klausmeier and members of the Finance Committee

FROM: Lynn Mortoro, Member of Maryland Episcopal Public Policy Network

DATE: February 20, 2024

Chair Senator Beidle, Vice Chair Klausmeier, and members of the Finance Committee

Thank you for allowing me to testify for this very important bill.

Per the Office of Government Relations June 3, 2021:

The Church has long committed itself to improving the health of people through a wide variety of ministries and means, from running hospitals and nursing facilities to engaging in advocacy on health policy.

The United States is the only wealthy, developed nation on the planet that does not provide health insurance. As one of the most wealthy states in the country, it is our obligation to assist in any way that we can

By simply allowing people to buy into insurance policies that already exist, we will be taking a step forward in helping to provide health insurance to our citizens, thereby improving the quality of life as well as helping our health care system.

The Diocese of Maryland requests a favorable report.