

Maryland Community Health System

Committee: House Health and Government Operations Committee

Bill: House Bill 1333 - Maryland Commission on Health Equity - Membership

and Statewide Health Equity Plan

Hearing Date: March 6, 2024

Position: Support

The Maryland Community Health System (MCHS) supports *House Bill 1333 - Maryland Commission on Health Equity - Membership and Statewide Health Equity Plan*.

As a network of federally qualified health centers (FQHCs), we provide somatic, behavioral, and oral health services to underserved communities. While Maryland prepares to develop and implement a statewide health equity plan, MCHS is in strong support of expanding the Maryland Commission on Health Equity and including a representative from an FQHC. Often, the exact populations FQHCs serve are the same ones that have been historically excluded from social and economic opportunities, resulting in barriers to care and unequal treatment over time. We are committed to addressing the health disparities that underlie our health system.

This bill is important to continue to advance health equity in Maryland. We strongly urge a favorable report. If we can provide any further information, please contact Robyn Elliott at relliott@policypartners.net.