

Committee:	Senate Finance Committee
Bill:	SB 437 Health Maintenance Organizations - Payments to Nonparticipating Providers - Reimbursement Rate
Hearing Date:	February 12, 2025
Position:	Support

The Licensed Clinical Professional Counselors of Maryland (LCPCM) support SB 437 Health Maintenance Organizations - Payments to Nonparticipating Providers - Reimbursement Rate. This bill requires health maintenance organizations (HMOs) to reimburse nonparticipating providers a reimbursement rate that takes into consideration the Medicare Economic Index from 2019 to the current year.

LCPCM believes SB 437 will expand access to care and improve outcomes for patients. Increasing reimbursement rates will incentivize providers to participate in HMO networks, strengthening the networks overall. It could also incentivize providers to practice in Maryland addressing the shortage gap and providing better access to care.

For these reasons, LCPCM urges the Committee to give SB 437 a FAVORABLE Report.

Please contact Andrea Mansfield at <u>amansfield@maniscanning.com</u> or (410)562-1617 if we can provide additional information.