



Committee: Senate Finance Committee

Bill Number: Senate Bill 411 – Health Insurance – Postpartum Depression Screening – Required Coverage and Authorized Cost Sharing

Hearing Date: February 12, 2025

Position: Support with Amendment

The Maryland Affiliate of the American College of Nurse Midwives (ACNM) supports *Senate Bill 411 – Health Insurance – Postpartum Depression Screening – Required Coverage and Authorized Cost Sharing*. The bill would require state-regulated private plans to cover postpartum depression screening.

Approximately 1 in 8 individuals giving birth experience postpartum depression.ⁱ Postpartum depression has a negative impact on the health of both the parent and child.ⁱⁱ Last year, the Maryland General Assembly took a major step forward by enacting *House Bill 1051/Senate Bill 1059* to increase risk assessment of pregnant individuals in the Medicaid program. ACNM supports SB 411 because it would enhance efforts to screen for postpartum depression for people covered by private insurance.

ACNM would request an amendment to prohibit copayments or cost-sharing, as postpartum depression screening are preventative:

Strike lines 10-18 on page 2 and replace with:

MAY NOT IMPOSE CO-PAYMENT OR COST-SHARING REQUIREMENTS ON COVERAGE REQUIRED UNDER (C) OF THIS SECTION

We ask for a favorable report with this amendment. If we can provide any further information, please contact Robyn Elliott at relliott@policypartners.net or (443) 926-3443.

ⁱ <https://www.cdc.gov/reproductive-health/depression/index.html#:~:text=CDC%20research%20shows%20about%201,reported%20symptoms%20of%20postpartum%20depression.>

ⁱⁱ Slomian J, Honvo G, Emonts P, Reginster JY, Bruyère O. Consequences of maternal postpartum depression: A systematic review of maternal and infant outcomes. *Womens Health (Lond)*. 2019 Jan-Dec;15:1745506519844044. doi: 10.1177/1745506519844044. Erratum in: *Womens Health (Lond)*. 2019 Jan-Dec;15:1745506519854864. doi: 10.1177/1745506519854864. PMID: 31035856; PMCID: PMC6492376.