



Maryland Occupational Therapy Association

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

Committee:	Senate Finance Committee
Bill Number:	Senate Bill 406
Title:	Maryland Medical Assistance Program and Health Insurance - Coverage for Orthoses (So Every Body Can Move Act)
Hearing Date:	February 12, 2025
Position:	Support

The Maryland Occupational Therapy Association (MOTA) supports *Senate Bill 406 – Maryland Medical Assistance Program and Health Insurance - Coverage for Orthoses (So Every Body Can Move Act)*. The bill will redefine orthosis and require Medicaid and private insurance to cover orthoses, components, repairs, and some replacements once annually.

Occupational therapists often work with patients who receive orthoses as part of the medical team working with the patient as they go through rehabilitation. A proper fitting orthosis that is custom molded is imperative to proper patient treatment. Currently, Maryland requires insurance coverage for prostheses but not orthoses. Orthotic care utilized for physical activity is not considered “medically necessary” or “reasonable and necessary” – the standards for insurance coverage – by most federal, state, and private health plans. Without health plan coverage, out-of-pocket costs range in the thousands and often prohibit people from getting access to this technology. As a result, physical activity accessible by specialized orthoses is severely limited. Without insurance coverage, individuals with limb difference often remain more sedentary or risk serious injury by exercising with improper devices.

MOTA supports this bill because it provides access to necessary care for people experiencing limb differences. We ask for a favorable report. If we can provide any further information, please contact Michael Paddy at mpaddy@policypartners.net.