



January 27, 2025

The Honorable Pamela Beidle  
Chair, Senate Finance Committee  
3 East Miller Senate Office Building  
Annapolis, MD 21401-1991

RE: Senate Bill 111 – Maryland Medical Assistance Program and Health Insurance – Step Therapy, Fail-First Protocols, and Prior Authorization- Prescription Drugs to Treat Serious Mental Illness

Dear Chair Beidle and Committee Members:

On behalf of Otsuka America Pharmaceutical, we respectfully submit our support for SB111. Attached you will find analysis that in partnership with Columbia Data Analytics we have conducted regarding the potential for SB111 to create cost savings within Medicaid for those diagnosed with serious mental illness. The study compared spending in Michigan, which has allowed open access to serious mental illness medications for over a decade, to that of several other states who have utilization management (step therapy and prior authorization) in place.

Should you have any questions about the data or wish to have a briefing on it by our policy staff please contact me at [Patrick.Stone@otsuka-us.com](mailto:Patrick.Stone@otsuka-us.com).

Regards,

Patrick Stone  
Director, State Government Affairs & Public Policy  
Otsuka America Pharmaceutical