

2/1/2025

Maryland Senate
Finance Committee
3 East Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Dear Honorable Chair, Vice-Chair and Members of the Committee:

On behalf of the pediatric nurse practitioners (PNPs) and fellow pediatric-focused advanced practice registered nurses (APRNs) of the National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners (NAPNAP) Chesapeake Chapter, I am writing to express our **support of SB 372 Preserve Telehealth Access Act of 2025.**

This bill is a significant step toward making healthcare more accessible by removing existing limitations on audio-only telephone consultations under the definition of "telehealth." By repealing these restrictions, the legislation ensures that vital healthcare services are available to individuals who may not have access to video conferencing technology or who prefer the simplicity of a phone call. This change is especially important for:

- Rural Communities: Where internet connectivity can be unreliable, making video consultations challenging.
- Elderly Population: Many seniors are more comfortable with traditional phone calls rather than navigating complex video platforms.
- Low-Income Families: Not everyone has the means to afford the latest tech required for video calls.

This legislation also mandates that the Maryland Medical Assistance Program and various insurers provide reimbursement for healthcare services delivered through telehealth without unnecessary limitations. This not only supports patients but also encourages healthcare providers to offer flexible care options. By supporting this bill, you're advocating for a more inclusive healthcare system that recognizes and adapts to the diverse needs of our community. It's about ensuring that no one is left behind due to technological barriers. Supporting this legislation is essential in breaking down barriers to healthcare access and making a tangible difference in the lives of Maryland residents.

For these reasons the Maryland Chesapeake Chapter of NAPNAP extends their support to **SB 372 Preserve Telehealth Access Act of 2025 and requests a favorable report.**

The pediatric advanced practice nurses of your state are grateful to you for your attention to these crucial issues. The Chesapeake Chapter of the National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners membership includes over 200 primary and acute care pediatric nurse practitioners who are committed to improving the health and advocating for Maryland's pediatric patients. If we can be of any further assistance, or if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the Chesapeake Chapter President, Yvette Laboy at mdchesnapnapeg@outlook.com.

Sincerely,

Yvette Laboy

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