

TESTIMONY: LYNDA M. DORMAN, BOWIE, MARYLAND RESIDENT

2:00 Minute Read

Good afternoon and thank you to Health and Government Operations Committee, and to the Honorable, State Delegate Jamila Woods for your leadership and championship of Maryland General Assembly SB0060, a vital piece of legislation that seeks to **mandate insurance coverage for calcium scoring tests.**

My name is Lynda Dorman, founder, and CEO of Dorman Group Holdings LLC, a Maryland business. As a long time, resident of the State of Maryland, I'm a mother of young adult women, served as the former Vice President of Philanthropy for UM Capital Region Health and Dimensions Healthcare, and former Board member and now Advisory Board member of Open My Heart Foundation.

My brief testimony – my voice and perspective today are shared because I am a health consumer that suffers from hypertension and do my best to ensure I take proper steps to mitigate the impact of this condition. My deceased parents suffered from hypertension, so I know that I have an elevated risk to array of potential cardiovascular health issues. My father died of stroke and to this day, I know that with consistent testing and monitoring, he might have survived longer than his sixty ninth birthday. Despite an active lifestyle and healthy eating, my family's healthy history of cardiovascular disease looms over me. It is with this concern that I stand in full support of Maryland General Assembly SB0060, and pass into law making the calcium score test that looks at how much calcium is in my arteries a routine test, affordable, and mandated part of every Maryland citizen's annual or bi-annual physical. It is a health imperative to have we pass SB0060 to literally save lives, create more educated health consumers who can take proactive measures to address

unknown and underlying cardiovascular disease issues, but also to address the staggering economic impact of heart disease as the leading cause of death of Maryland citizens!

I think that either we pay the price for poor health and expensive cardiovascular-related services or we focus our resources, laws, and policy-making that enables high-quality, institutionalized and responsible preventative care that is actionable, meaningful, and effective.

In the end, together, we can and should do everything necessary to improve health outcomes for the citizens of Maryland, and by passing SB0060, you are taking a bold and critically important set in the right direction.

Thank you so much for this opportunity to provide my testimony in support of SB0060 and to Open My Heart Foundation for giving life to this important proposed legislation.

Lynda M. Dorman
Maryland Resident