



**2025 SESSION
POSITION PAPER**

BILL: HB 1315 – Health Insurance – Coverage for Child Wellness Services – Immunizations
COMMITTEE: House - Health and Government Operations Committee
POSITION: Letter of Support
BILL ANALYSIS: House Bill 1315 would add language that all visits for and the costs of childhood and adolescent immunizations recommended by the American Academy of Pediatrics in its child and adolescent immunization schedule be added to the minimum package of child wellness services.

POSITION RATIONALE: The Maryland Association of County Health Officers (MACHO) strongly supports adding language to existing law that would cover the cost of all visits for, and the costs of all immunizations outlined in the child and adolescent immunization schedule recommended by the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) and incorporating them as part of a minimum package of child wellness services. This action would provide a method to publishing recommendations in the event the CDC’s Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) is unable to make vaccine schedule recommendations for the public and providers and would ensure continued coverage by healthcare insurance providers.

The mission of the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) is to attain optimal physical, mental, and social health and well-being for all infants, children, adolescents, and young adults. The AAP sets professional standards for practitioners providing both primary and specialty pediatric healthcare. In addition, the APP uses evidence-based peer reviewed research to develop professional standards, recommendations and policy positions to support their mission. Adding the AAP to the existing law would ensure that children and adolescents are eligible to receive without cost the recommended and approved immunizations that protect them from disease, morbidity and mortality and promote healthy child and adolescent development.

Currently the AAP is one of several recognized national health organizations that reviews the ACIP vaccine recommendations before the schedule is finalized and published by the CDC.

For these reasons, the Maryland Association of County Health Officers provides a Letter of Support for HB 1315. For more information, please contact Ruth Maiorana, MACHO Executive Director at rmaiora1@jhu.edu or 410-937-1433.