



Committee: House Health and Governmental Affairs Committee

Bill Number: House Bill 974 – Health Insurance – Preventative Services – Enforcement Authority

Hearing Date: February 20, 2025

Position: Support

The Maryland Assembly of School-Based Healthcare (MASBHC) supports *House Bill 974 – Health Insurance – Preventative Services – Enforcement Authority*. The bill provides for the Maryland Insurance Administration’s continued enforcement of the Affordable Care Act’s coverage requirements including immunizations for children.

MASBHC strongly supports continuing coverage of vaccinations for children. Immunizations have played a critical role in reducing morbidity and mortality in the United States and globally.ⁱ There are almost 90 school-based health centers in underserved communities with high concentrates of poverty. School-based health centers coordinate with public health leaders and the pediatric provider community to support families in meeting Maryland’s vaccination requirements for students.

We ask for a favorable report. If we can provide any further information, please contact Robyn Elliott at relliott@policypartners.net or (443) 926-3443.

ⁱ Nandi A, Shet A. Why vaccines matter: understanding the broader health, economic, and child development benefits of routine vaccination. *Hum Vaccin Immunother*. 2020 Aug 2;16(8):1900-1904. doi: 10.1080/21645515.2019.1708669. Epub 2020 Jan 24. PMID: 31977283; PMCID: PMC7482790.