

Committee: House Health and Government Operations Committee

Bill: HB 418 Health Maintenance Organizations - Payments to Nonparticipating

Providers - Reimbursement Rate

Hearing Date: February 6, 2025

Position: Support

The Licensed Clinical Professional Counselors of Maryland (LCPCM) support HB 418 Health Maintenance Organizations - Payments to Nonparticipating Providers - Reimbursement Rate. This bill requires health maintenance organizations (HMOs) to reimburse nonparticipating providers a reimbursement rate that takes into consideration the Medicare Economic Index from 2019 to the current year.

LCPCM believes HB 418 will expand access to care and improve outcomes for patients. Increasing reimbursement rates will incentivize providers to participate in HMO networks, strengthening the networks overall. It could also incentivize providers to practice in Maryland addressing the shortage gap and providing better access to care.

For these reasons, LCPCM urges the Committee to give HB 418 a FAVORABLE Report.

Please contact Andrea Mansfield at <u>amansfield@maniscanning.com</u> or (410)562-1617 if we can provide additional information.