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Committee: House Health and Government Operations Committee
Bill Number: House Bill 65 – Community Health Worker Appreciation Day
Hearing Date: March 13, 2025
Position: Support

The Maryland Dental Action Coalition (MDAC) supports *House Bill 65 - Community Health Worker Appreciation Day*. This bill requires the Governor to declare May 8th as Community Health Worker Appreciation Day.

Community health workers are an integral to public health efforts to improve population health and address health disparities. As trusted members of their community, community health workers enhance communication between their clients and the health provider team. Community health workers have demonstrated their impact on improving oral health. There are training programs that support community health workers in specializing in enhancing access to dental services. The Maryland Dental Action Coalition has been working with community partners to expand the number of community health workers who focus on oral health.

We ask for a favorable report. Community health workers have contributed significantly to their communities. Maryland should recognize them with a Community Health Worker Appreciation Day. If we can provide further information, please contact Robyn Elliott at relliott@policypartners.net.

Optimal Oral Health for All Marylanders