



**Maryland Association of School Health Nurses**



**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

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The Maryland Association of School Health Nurses supports *House Bill 974 – Health Insurance – Preventative Services – Enforcement Authority*. The bill requires the Insurance Commission to continue to enforce the Affordable Care Act’s preventative service requirements, including coverage for childhood immunizations. Vaccinations have been one of the most effective public health strategies in reducing the morbidity and mortality of children nationwide.<sup>i</sup> We support efforts to continue to ensure vaccinations are affordable and accessible to Maryland families.

We ask for a favorable report. If we can provide any further information, please contact Robyn Elliott at [relliott@policypartners.net](mailto:relliott@policypartners.net).

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<sup>i</sup> 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.