



TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HOUSE BILL 869

Preserve Telehealth Access Act of 2025

Before the House Health and Government Operations Committee
By Stephanie Klapper, Deputy Director, Maryland Citizens' Health
Initiative, Inc.

February 13, 2025

Chair Peña-Melnyk, Vice-Chair Cullison, and Members of the House Health and Government Operations Committee, thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of House Bill 869. I am submitting this testimony today on behalf of our individual organization, Maryland Citizens' Health Initiative, Inc., as we have not reviewed this legislation with the full Maryland Health Care for All! Coalition. Our mission is to ensure that all Marylanders have access to quality affordable health care coverage. This bill would end the sunset on Maryland's telehealth provisions to ensure continued access to audio-only telehealth and payment parity by the Maryland Medical Assistance Program and other insurers, nonprofit health service plans, and health maintenance organizations. Many Marylanders, especially vulnerable and underserved populations, rely on telehealth to continue to receive care. This legislation is in line with the recommendations in the Maryland Health Care Commission's 2024 [Report](#) and passing it will continue Maryland's leadership to ensure a more healthy and equitable state. We thank the Committee for its recognized efforts toward improving access to quality, affordable health care for all Marylanders, and for passing the original Preserve Telehealth Access Acts in 2021 and 2023 to include audio-only telehealth. We urge the Committee to give a favorable report for House Bill 869.

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