

Committee: House Health and Government Operations Committee

Bill Number: House Bill 1315 – Health Insurance – Coverage for Child Wellness Services -

Immunizations

Hearing Date: March 6, 2025

Position: Support with Amendment

The Maryland Assembly on School-Based Health Care (MASBHC) supports *House Bill 1315* – *Health Insurance* – *Coverage for Child Wellness Services*. Maryland law currently requires state-regulation commercial plans to cover childhood immunizations as recommended by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The legislation would the recommendations of the American Academy of Pediatrics as an alternative coverage standard.

MASBHC advocates for the nearly 90 school-based health centers that serve students in underserved communities with a high concentration of poverty. We are committed to ensuring access to childhood immunizations. We support having an alternative standard to ensure Maryland insurers can continue to cover childhood immunizations, even with the changing national landscape.

We would request consideration of an amendment to extend this bill to children covered under the Maryland Medical Assistance Program. We want to ensure that Maryland's law protects the health and wellbeing of all Maryland children.

We ask for a favorable report on this legislation with an amendment to include Medicaid. If we can provide any further information, please contact Robyn Elliott at relliott@policypartners.net or (443) 926-3443.