



TESTIMONY FOR HB0995
Workgroup to Study the Rise in Adverse Decisions in the State Health Care System - Establishment

Bill Sponsor: Delegate Pena-Melnyk

Committee: Health and Government Operations

Organization Submitting: Maryland Legislative Coalition

Person Submitting: Cecilia Plante, co-chair

Position: FAVORABLE

I am submitting this testimony in strong support of HB0995 on behalf of the Maryland Legislative Coalition. The Maryland Legislative Coalition is an association of activists - individuals and grassroots groups in every district in the state. We are unpaid citizen lobbyists and our Coalition supports well over 30,000 members.

This bill, if enacted, would create a workgroup to review the adverse decisions made by insurance carriers in the state and make recommendations on –

- Medical service categories
- Health settings
- Adverse decisions
- Medical necessity

They will also determine a standardized method for categorizing the decisions and reporting grievances. Finally, they will make recommendations on how to reduce the number of adverse decisions, including suggesting legislation that would address the rise in such decisions.

As residents of Maryland, anything that can be done to make health insurance companies more focused on the health of Marylanders and more of a partnership instead of a money-making enterprise is more than welcome.

We strongly support this bill and recommend a **FAVORABLE** report in committee.