



**BILL NUMBER:** Senate Bill 532

**TITLE:** Higher Education Institutions – Over-the-Counter Contraception – Access and Reporting

**COMMITTEE:** House Appropriations Committee

**HEARING DATE:** April 7, 2026

**POSITION:** Favorable

Reproductive Justice Maryland strongly supports *Senate Bill 532 – Higher Education Institutions – Over-the-Counter Contraception – Access and Reporting*. The bill clarifies existing law that already requires public 4-year higher education institutions and community colleges to provide access to over-the-counter contraception on campus.

Reproductive Justice Maryland has long-supported increasing access to contraception on campuses, including over-the-counter contraception. The Food and Drug Administration has approved three main types of over-the-counter contraception: condoms, emergency contraception, and Opill.<sup>i</sup> Maryland has been a leader in access to over-the-counter contraception, beginning by becoming the first state to require coverage of over-the-counter contraception.<sup>ii</sup> The Maryland General Assembly has already taken two major steps to increase access to over-the-counter contraception on college campuses:

- **Public Four-Year Higher Education Institutions:** In 2023, the Maryland General Assembly enacted House Bill 477/Senate Bill 341 to require public four-year higher education institutions to provide 24/7 access to over-the-counter contraception;
- **Community Colleges:** In 2024, the Maryland General Assembly extended requirements for access to over-the-contraception during class hours to community colleges through House Bill 367/Senate Bill 527.

Maryland has made significant progress in implementing its campus access program. In its January 2026 annual report on implementation, the Maryland Higher Education Commission highlighted innovative programs including over-the-counter contraception in wellness vending machines on multiple campuses. We would like to note Maryland's progress has been the result of robust student engagement and a public-private partnership between the Maryland Higher Education Commission, American Society for Emergency Contraception, and the Maryland Commission for Women.

Senate Bill 532 will support Maryland's ongoing implementation work by: 1) extending an annual reporting requirement to public 4-year institutions. The reporting requirement already applies to community colleges; and 2) clarifying that community colleges are required to provide access to *all* forms of over-the-counter contraception. It is already implied, but it is clearer in the law for 4-year higher education institutions.

We ask for a favorable report. If we can provide any additional information, please contact Robyn Elliott at [relliott@policypartners.net](mailto:relliott@policypartners.net) or (443) 926-3443.

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<sup>i</sup> <https://www.ccjm.org/content/92/9/572>

<sup>ii</sup> <https://static1.squarespace.com/static/624f47211382a25c48aca17d/t/689cb5cbca5a475cf759c1d3/1755100619053/Free+the+Pill+State+OTC+Fact+Sheet+ 8.13.25.pdf>