

CHERYL C. KAGAN
Legislative District 17
Montgomery County

Vice Chair
Education, Energy, and
the Environment Committee

Joint Audit and Evaluation Committee

Joint Committee on Federal Relations



Miller Senate Office Building
11 Bladen Street, Suite 2 West
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
410-841-3134
800-492-7122 Ext. 3134
Cheryl.Kagan@senate.maryland.gov

THE SENATE OF MARYLAND ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

Testimony SB532: Over-The-Counter (OTC) Contraception

House Appropriations Committee

Tuesday, April 7, 2026 1 PM

History of the Issue

The General Assembly has taken important steps to expand community colleges to over-the-counter (OTC) contraception for college students. Many undergraduates have busy schedules and limited community colleges to transportation, making on-campus health resources essential.

In 2023, [SB341](#) required public higher education institutions, including schools in the University System of Maryland, Morgan State University, and St. Mary's College, to develop plans to provide reproductive health care on campus.

The following year, I co-sponsored [SB527](#) with then-Senator Ariana Kelly to expand these requirements to community colleges, requiring them to develop implementation plans and submit annual reports to the Maryland Higher Education Commission (MHEC).

Maryland is the first state to require over-the-counter contraception at both community colleges and four year colleges. Our campuses have made meaningful progress towards universal community colleges. In February 2026, The Maryland Commission for Women reported that the community colleges in Montgomery, Anne Arundel, and Howard counties, had all fully implemented contraception vending machines.¹

The Problem

Despite this progress, there are differences between community colleges and four-year institutions. Four-year institutions provide every type of FDA-approved contraceptives, while community colleges may not. In addition, reporting requirements are detailed in different sections of the code, which makes oversight more complicated.

Students need reliable access to all FDA-approved OTC methods, including condoms, emergency contraception, and birth control-- regardless of which campus they attend.

The Solution

[SB532](#) includes three changes that:

¹ [Over the Counter Birth Control: Campus Programs \(February 18, 2026\)](#)

² [SB-320 - College Student Health Center Sexual and Reproductive Health Preparation Fund.\(2017-2018\)](#)

³ [HB3709 - 104th Illinois General Assembly](#)

1. Clarify that both community colleges and four-year institutions must provide all available types of OTC contraception;
2. Require four-year institutions to follow the same reporting guidelines as community colleges; and
3. Establish an annual MHEC report about OTC contraception options on college campuses, to be delivered to the MGA each October 1st.

This bill ensures that all Maryland college students benefit from consistent, reliable access while simplifying oversight of current law.

It passed the Senate 31-12. I leave it to the wisdom of the Appropriations Committee whether to conform the Senate bill to the House version or leave it unchanged.

Thank you for your consideration.