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BILL: HB 1076 – Higher Education Institutions - Over-the-Counter Contraception - Access and Reporting

COMMITTEE: Appropriations & Health

DATE: March 3, 2026

POSITION: FAVORABLE

The University System of Maryland Student Council (USMSC) is one of four councils established during the restructuring of higher education in Maryland in 1988. USMSC represents the over 178,000 students in the University System of Maryland's 12 institutions and 3 regional higher education centers.

USMSC is in support of House Bill 1076, which aims to expand access to contraceptives on campuses in Maryland. Access to over-the-counter contraception is a matter of health and financial equity, and adds a layer of protection against students' studies being interrupted as a result of unintended pregnancy. The reporting requirements detailed in the bill allows the State to identify where gaps might exist, and allows future appropriate action to be taken.

We respectfully urge a favorable report from the committee.

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