



Committee: Senate Finance Committee

Bill: Senate Bill 385 – Public Health - Recommendations for Immunizations, Screenings, and Preventive Services - Pharmacist Administration and Required Health Insurance Coverage (The Vax Act)

Hearing Date: February 10, 2026

Position: Support

The Maryland Affiliate of the American College of Nurse Midwives (ACNM) supports *Senate Bill 385 – Public Health - Recommendations for Immunizations, Screenings, and Preventive Services - Pharmacist Administration and Required Health Insurance Coverage (The Vax Act)*. The legislation establishes the authority of Maryland’s Secretary of Health to set a vaccination schedule and then requires the Insurance Commissioner to use the schedule to set insurance coverage requirements. The Secretary would be required to consult with national organizations including the American Academy of Pediatrics and the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists as well as take into consideration applicable guidance of federal agencies.

ACNM strongly supports this legislation as a mechanism for ensuring Marylanders continue to have immunization coverage based on scientific evidence. We cannot afford to step backwards with public health efforts to curb or eradicate the spread of infectious diseases such as measles and hepatitis B.

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