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Date: March 25, 2026

Bill # / Title: House Bill 1112 - Health Insurance Coverage Protection Commission - Study on Individual and Group Health Insurance Market Stability

Committee: Senate Finance Committee

Position: Letter of Information

The Maryland Insurance Administration (“MIA”) appreciates the opportunity to provide a letter of information for House Bill 1112.

The bill would amend the duties of the Health Insurance Coverage Protection Commission (“Commission”) established last year to require the Commission to study and make recommendations regarding individual and group health insurance market stability including, but not limited to:

- merging the individual and small group markets to stabilize risk and expand the base,
- pooling purchasing power across states,
- ways to control prescription drug costs,
- whether to establish a multiyear reinsurance stability fund,
- whether to reinstate the Maryland Health Insurance Plan;
- whether the pooling of state, county, and local government purchasers to combine buying power will result in better rates and quality alignment within the State
- and identifying ways to sustain and increase premium assistance in the individual market.

The topics set forth in this bill for the Commission to explore will aid in the group’s mission to protect consumer access to affordable health coverage. The study and resulting recommendations are intended to help the Commission and the State identify policy options to address longer term affordability in our health care markets.

The bill broadens the focus of the Commission, which is already supported by the MIA in terms of staffing and participation. The MIA intends to make meaningful contributions to the existing and new study requirements to help ensure individual and group health insurance market stability.

For the reasons set forth above, the MIA thanks the Committee for the opportunity to provide additional information. Please feel free to let us know if we can be of any further assistance.