



## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Wes Moore, Governor · Aruna Miller, Lt. Governor · Meena Seshamani, M.D., Ph.D., Secretary

March 25, 2026

The Honorable Pamela Beidle  
Chair, Senate Finance Committee  
3 East Miller Senate Office Building  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

**RE: House Bill 1365 – Health Occupations, Public Health, and Insurance - Menopause - Provider Training Coverage Requirements, Policy Initiatives, and Access to Care – Letter of Support as Amended**

Dear Chair Beidle and Committee members:

The Maryland Department of Health (the Department) respectfully submits this letter of support as amended for House Bill (HB) 1365 – Health Occupations and Insurance - Menopause - Provider Training and Coverage Requirements. HB 1365 modifies the State Advisory Council on Health and Wellness membership; requires health occupations boards to grant continuing education credits for menopause-related training; requires the Department to identify training programs; requires certain insurers to provide coverage for menopause care; and directs the Department to develop an action plan to increase access to perimenopausal, menopausal, and postmenopausal services.

Menopause is a permanent cessation of menstruation that is a normal, natural event that occurs after the loss of ovarian activity. There is a wide range of symptoms that women experience including but not limited to hot flashes, night sweats, mood changes and the genitourinary syndrome of menopause. Menopause is often inadequately addressed in clinical care, as many providers receive limited training in its management and patients frequently report undertreatment and inconsistent counseling.<sup>1,2</sup> This issue is not limited to women's health care providers as primary care providers and other subspecialists will care for women experiencing menopause-associated symptoms and have an opportunity to improve their experience.

In the Women's Health Action Plan, the Department committed to ensuring that all women in Maryland achieve and maintain their highest level of physical, mental, and emotional health and well-being.<sup>3</sup> Specialized and evidence-based menopause care is crucial to achieving this goal.

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<sup>1</sup> Chamberlain, S., Friedman, A., Stroman, T., & Viner, B. (2025, October 15). [Closing the menopause care gap: The next frontier in women's health](#). Boston Consulting Group.

<sup>2</sup> DePree, B., Houghton, K., Shiozawa, A., Esterberg, E., King, D. D., Kim, J., & Mancuso, S. (2023). Treatment and resource utilization for menopausal symptoms in the United States: a retrospective review of real-world evidence from US electronic health records. *Menopause*, 30(1), 70–79. <https://doi.org/10.1097/GME.0000000000002095>

<sup>3</sup> Maryland Department of Health. [Women's Health Action Plan](#). 2024.

The Department supports this bill's effort to promote comprehensive education for clinical providers who care for women with menopause and menopause-associated symptoms, and to incentivize training through enhanced continuing medical education credits. The Department will work to identify training programs, as required by this bill, that will support clinical providers who care for this population to recognize symptoms, determine appropriate referrals for further evaluation, and stay up to date on the latest recommendations for treatment and management.

The Department also supports this bill's goal of improving Marylanders' access to perimenopausal, menopausal, and postmenopausal health care services, and will work in consultation with the State Advisory Council on Health and Wellness to evaluate needs and create an action plan.

If you would like to discuss this further, please do not hesitate to contact Meghan Lynch, Director of Governmental Affairs at [meghan.lynch@maryland.gov](mailto:meghan.lynch@maryland.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Meena Seshamani', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Meena Seshamani, M.D., Ph.D.  
Secretary of Health