



THE PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY GOVERNMENT

(301) 952-3700
County Council

March 11, 2026

Position: FAVORABLE

The Prince George's County Council submits this statement in strong support of HB 1107, Maryland Medical Assistance Program and Health Insurance - Required Coverage for Aesthetic Services and Restorative Care for Victims of Domestic Violence (Healing Our Scars Act). This legislation would require the Maryland Medical Assistance Program and private health insurers to provide coverage to victims of domestic violence for aesthetic services and restorative care related to scarring caused by domestic abuse. The Council believes this bill represents a meaningful and necessary step toward ensuring that survivors of domestic violence can access the full scope of care they need to heal not just physically, but emotionally and psychologically.

Prince George's County is home to a diverse and growing community of more than 900,000 residents. Like all Maryland counties, our community is not immune to the devastating impact of domestic violence. Survivors of domestic abuse frequently sustain serious physical injuries—including burns, lacerations, and other trauma—that result in permanent scarring. These visible reminders of abuse can impede a survivor's ability to recover, reintegrate into the workforce, maintain housing, and rebuild their sense of self and dignity.

Under current law, aesthetic and restorative procedures to address such scarring are typically excluded from insurance coverage and from the Medical Assistance Program. Survivors who lack financial resources—already disproportionately represented among domestic violence victims—are often left without access to care that could be transformative for their recovery. HB 1107 closes this gap by treating the physical consequences of domestic abuse with the seriousness they deserve.

Prince George's County has made substantial investments in domestic violence prevention and survivor support services, including partnerships with local shelters, legal aid organizations, and local health programs. The County's efforts, however, can only go so far without a strong foundation in state law. HB 1107 would complement and strengthen the County's local investments by ensuring that when survivors seek restorative medical care, they are not turned away due to a gap in coverage. The Council urges the General Assembly to act swiftly to pass this bill.

The Prince George's County Council respectfully urges the House Committee on Health to report favorably on HB 1107. This bill is an act of compassion, equity, and sound public policy. Survivors of domestic violence have already endured more than enough. The Healing Our Scars Act corrects that injustice, and the Prince George's County Council is proud to support it.

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