



**To:** House Health Committee

**Bill:** Senate Bill 276 - Maryland Medical Assistance Program and Health Insurance - Coverage for Orthoses and Prostheses (So Every Body Can Move Act)

**Date:** March 26, 2026

**Position:** Favorable

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The Maryland Academy of Physician Assistants strongly supports Senate Bill 276 - Maryland Medical Assistance Program and Health Insurance - Coverage for Orthoses and Prostheses (So Every Body Can Move Act). The bill requires carriers to cover orthoses, their components, repairs, and medically necessary replacements. The bill also clarifies that mandated benefits for prostheses must include all medically necessary devices for activities of daily living, essential job tasks, and physical activities, and it prohibits insurers from imposing higher cost-sharing or restrictive dollar limits specifically on orthotic coverage.

Physician assistants (PAs) support the bill because it expands required insurance and Medicaid coverage for medically necessary orthoses and prostheses that support daily living, work, and physical activity. PAs are frequently involved in evaluating patients' functional limitations, managing health needs, and determining when braces or prosthetic devices are clinically appropriate, so clearer and broader coverage helps ensure their treatment plans can actually be carried out without delays or denials. In addition, improved access to orthotic and prosthetic devices aligns with the PA role in promoting patient mobility, independence, and long-term health outcomes. When patients receive the devices they need, PAs can better support recovery, prevent secondary complications, and reduce avoidable hospitalizations or disability, particularly for patients with chronic conditions, injuries, or disabilities who rely on these devices to function day-to-day.

We ask for a favorable report on the bill. If we can provide any further information, please contact Michael Paddy [mpaddy@policypartners.net](mailto:mpaddy@policypartners.net).