



Committee: House Health Committee

Bill: House Bill 1367 – Commission on Re-Imagining Health Care in Maryland

Hearing Date: March 5, 2026

Position: Support with Amendment

Our organizations support *House Bill 1367 – Commission on Re-Imagining Health Care in Maryland* to establish a commission to develop a long-term vision for Maryland’s healthcare system. Our organizations include:

- American College of Nurse Midwives- Maryland
- Health Care for the Homeless
- Maryland Academy of Physician Assistants
- Maryland Assembly on School-Based Health Care
- Maryland Community Health System
- Maryland Dental Action Coalition
- National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence

Maryland should be looking beyond the immediate crisis of addressing the rapid-fire changes in our healthcare landscape because of federal changes. We support a process, as contemplated by this legislation, to develop a comprehensive vision of a healthcare system centered on the needs of our communities. We suggest several amendments that would enhance the Commission’s ability to achieve this goal:

- **Recognizing Oral Health as Part of Overall Health:** Explicitly recognize oral health as part of health care on page 1 in line 14;
- **Engage Federally Qualified Health Centers, Behavioral Health Programs, and School-Based Health Centers:** Add representatives of our community health providers – including federally qualified health centers, behavioral health programs, and school-

based health centers – to the Commission. These providers form the backbone of the healthcare system for our underserved communities and should be included;

- **Include A Wide-Range of Clinicians:** To be successful, re-imagining the healthcare system must involve recognizing that healthcare practitioners should be working at the top of their license and that patients need integrated care teams. The Commission should include a wide range of clinicians and health occupations experts including physician assistants, advance practice registered nurses, midwives, dental hygienists, and behavioral health clinicians; and
- **Diversify Physician Representation:** We support the inclusion of physicians on the Commission, and just note that the Commission should cast a wide net to find the most innovative physicians to participate.

Thank you for the consideration of these amendments. We ask for a favorable report. If we can provide any further information, please contact Robyn Elliott at relliott@policypartners.net or aciekot@policypartners.net.