



NCBW®
100

Southern Maryland Chapter

To: The Honorable Chair Health and the Honorable Committee Members

Re: House Bill 1106 Maryland Commission on Women's Health Advancement-Establishment

Favorable Vote

House Bill 1106 represents a critical, forward-thinking investment in the health and well-being of women across Maryland. For far too long, gaps in access to comprehensive, sex-specific, and gender-sensitive health care have left many women without the coordinated services they need throughout their lives—from reproductive and maternal care to chronic disease prevention and treatment. National health experts have shown that systemic barriers and fragmented care contribute to poorer outcomes for women, and that tailored, integrated care systems are essential to closing these gaps and saving lives.

Establishing a commission to thoroughly study the feasibility of a women's hospital and a statewide clinical network will allow Maryland to harness data, expertise, and community voices to design a model that increases equity, improves quality of care, and reduces disparities in health outcomes. Rather than guessing what works, this commission will provide evidence-based recommendations, timelines, and measurable objectives to ensure that future investments are effective and sustainable. By doing so, Maryland can lead the nation in advancing women's health, enhancing preventive care, expanding access to essential services like cancer screenings, and ultimately ensuring that every woman in the state receives the comprehensive care she deserves.

Women's health experiences and outcomes are a measure of a state's commitment to equity. I am certain that this body has the courage to pass House Bill 1106. One day Women's Health will be a testament to progress and a reflection to health dignity of a State.

House Bill 1106 is not just good policy; it is an urgent step toward a healthier, more equitable Maryland for women and families. We the members of the National Coalition of 100 Black Women of Southern Maryland proudly and respectfully ask for a favorable vote on Senate Bill 19. Below are a small sample of the Women who support the favorable outcome of the bill.

Michelle Lyons, President of NCBW SoMD

Cassandra Freeman, Vice President NCBW SoMD

Edith Perry, Public Policy Chair NCBW SoMD

Dr. Krystal Hall, PhD, Third Vice President NCBW SoMD

Lauretta Miles Co-Chair Public Policy NCBW SoMD

Cheryl Botts

Michelle Johnson

Sonya Pollock

Dr. Gail Hudson-Nickerson, PhD

Cynthia Brown

Lynda Dorman

Jamila Smith

Dora Myles Moore

Fatima Warren

Karleshia Dorsey

Rosalind Ellis

Dr. Jacqueline Wilcher, PhD

Sharon Coker

Cheryl Walker

Dr. Renita Alexander

Betsy Adebogejo

Metina Booze

Thomasina Coates

Cashenna Cross

Angela Graham

Rev. Dr. Thea Wilson, PhD.

Sharon Taylor

Lisa Proctor

Avis Thomas-Lester

Dr. Yonelle Moore-Lee, PhD.