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House Health Committee

February 12, 2026

House Bill 494 – *Health Insurance – Primary Care Investment Targets – Reimbursement and Reporting*

POSITION: SUPPORT

The Maryland State Medical Society (MedChi), the largest physician organization in Maryland, **supports** *House Bill 494: Health Insurance – Primary Care Investment Targets – Reimbursement and Reporting*. This bill requires insurers to reimburse health care providers in a manner that meets the State's annual primary care investment targets, established on or after February 1, 2026. When filing a premium rate or premium rate change with the Maryland Insurance Commissioner, a carrier must submit a description of the carrier's progress in meeting the annual primary care investment targets established by the State.

Maryland has laid substantial groundwork to establish statewide primary care investment targets by forming a Primary Care Investment Workgroup, following a 2022 legislative mandate. The Maryland Health Care Commission convened this Workgroup to analyze current primary care spending across payers, develop standardized measurement methods, and recommend strategies to strengthen primary care. The Workgroup recommended adopting legislation requiring payers to increase investment in primary care as a percentage of total medical spending to meet annual minimum thresholds, which has been incorporated into planning for the AHEAD Model. Therefore, House Bill 494 ensures carrier accountability and transparency in meeting these targets and in reimbursing health care providers.

MedChi urges a favorable vote.

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