



Committee: Senate Finance Committee
Bill number: Senate Bill 621
Title: Association Health Coverage Plans
Hearing Date: February 24, 2021
Position: Oppose

The Maryland Nurses Association (MNA) opposes *Senate Bill 621 – Association Health Coverage Plans*. The bill would create the opportunity for the establishment of certain association health plans in the State of Maryland. MNA appreciates the bill’s underlying intention to increase the number of health insurance products available to consumers. We are concerned that consumers may not realize that association health plans do not have the same protections as State-regulated private plans in Maryland. MNA has long-supported many of these State protections, such as network adequacy requirements to ensure plans have enough providers as well as enhanced coverage of preventative services.

We are committed to working with the bill sponsor and committee members to expand the number of affordable insurance options in Maryland. We ask for an unfavorable report on this bill, as we do not think it offers the right pathway to more affordable insurance in Maryland. If we can provide further assistance, please contact Robyn Elliott at relliott@policypartners.net or (443) 926-3443.