



**TESTIMONY FOR SB0830
SECRETARY OF HEALTH - SCHOOL-BASED HEALTH CENTERS - GUIDELINES AND
ADMINISTRATION OF GRANTS**

Bill Sponsor: Senator Lam

Committee: Finance

Organization Submitting: Maryland Legislative Coalition

Person Submitting: Cecilia Plante, co-chair

Position: FAVORABLE

I am submitting this testimony in favor of SB0830 on behalf of the Maryland Legislative Coalition. The Maryland Legislative Coalition is an association of activists - individuals and grassroots groups in every district in the state. We are unpaid citizen lobbyists, and our Coalition supports well over 30,000 members.

Our members support the expansion of school-based health centers. In Maryland, schools currently have a nurse available to support the health of the children in the school and treat their non-emergency illnesses. Expanding these non-emergency health services to the rest of the families of those children would help communities all over the state to have access to locally-available, non-urgent care that we already have the infrastructure for. It is a forward-thinking use of existing assets and our members would like to see these guidelines written as soon as possible, so that school-based health care centers can expand their services to local communities.

The Maryland Legislative Coalition supports this bill and we recommend a **FAVORABLE** report in Committee.