



FREDERICK COUNTY GOVERNMENT
OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

Jessica Fitzwater
County Executive

HB 340 – Prescription Drug Affordability Board – Authority for Upper Payment Limits and Funding (Lowering Prescription Drug Costs for All Marylanders Act of 2024)

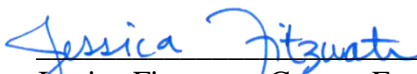
DATE: February 8, 2024
COMMITTEE: House Health and Government Operations Committee
POSITION: Favorable
FROM: The Office of Frederick County Executive Jessica Fitzwater

As the County Executive of Frederick County, I urge the committee to give HB 340 – Prescription Drug Affordability Board – Authority for Upper Payment Limits and Funding (Lowering Prescription Drug Costs for All Marylanders Act of 2024) a favorable report.

This bill requires that the annual budget includes an appropriation of at least \$1,000,000 for the Prescription Drug Affordability Fund, which will be used to establish a process for setting upper payment limits for prescription drug products. Currently, the Prescription Drug Affordability Board has the authority to set upper payment limits on the most expensive prescription drugs, but not all prescription drugs fall into this category. This leaves a variety of prescription drugs at an unaffordable price.

HB 340 is an important step to ensure that all Marylanders can afford the prescription drugs they need. This leads to further health complications and a lower quality of life. It is crucial that the State takes the necessary steps address this inequity so that all Marylanders may protect their health.

Thank you for your consideration of HB 340. I urge you to advance this bill with a favorable report.



Jessica Fitzwater, County Executive
Frederick County, MD