



# Maryland Coalition of Families

## 2025 Advocacy Action Alert

January 11, 2025

### Testimony Needed on Two Priority Bills



Two of MCF's priority bills are set for hearings in the near future!

The first hearing is **THIS WEEK** on a bill that seeks to improve access to problem gambling resources on online sports wagering sites.

The second hearing is later in the month on a bill that would require health insurers to improve access to non-participating behavioral health care providers.

If you are interested in testifying on either of these proposed bills and would like assistance, please contact me right away!

Email  
Ashley

**Bill Number:** SB 86

**Hearing Date:** Wednesday, January 15th, 10:30 a.m.

**Deadline to Submit Testimony:** Monday, January 13th, 6:00 pm

**Bill Title:** Online Sports Wagering - Problem Gambling Resources - Required Contact Information

**Legislative Sponsor(s):** [Senator Jeff Waldstreicher](#)

[Read the Bill](#)

### Summary

This bill will require all mobile sports wagering providers to include the phone number and link to the [Maryland Center of Excellence on Problem Gambling](#) on the homepage of their website and mobile applications.

### Why this is important

If passed, this legislation would improve access to information and resources. Including this resource in all the places a person accesses online sports wagering provides them or someone who cares about them with a way to reach out for help if there are concerns about problem gambling.

---

**Bill Number:** HB 11

**Hearing Date:** Thursday, January 30th, 1:00 pm

**Deadline to Submit Testimony:** Tuesday, January 28th, 6 pm

**Bill Title:** Health Insurance - Access to non-participating providers - Referrals, Additional Assistance, and Coverage

**Legislative Sponsor(s):** [Delegate Sheree Sample-Hughes](#)

[Read the Bill](#)

### Summary

The bill would prohibit certain health insurance carriers from requiring prior authorization to continue established treatment with non-participating providers. It would also repeal the June 30, 2025 end date for certain provisions of the current law regarding prior authorization for out-of-network specialists and non-physicians and billing for commercially insured people who must see an out-of-network behavioral health provider. It would require the Maryland Health Care Commission to establish a better method for determining rates of reimbursement for providers who are out-of-network and provide better access to non-participating providers.

### Why this is important

There is a lot in the bill that is important to Maryland families. Ultimately, the bill aims to improve access to behavioral health care services, particularly access to non-participating providers.

---

If you would like to learn how to set up your MyMGA account so that you can submit testimony on proposed legislation that is important to you, please visit our website to download step-by-step instructions.

[Create Your MyMGA Account](#)

**If you don't already, please follow us on social media if you use it! We'll be sharing advocacy information and opportunities through**

these platforms as well!



[www.mdcoalition.org](http://www.mdcoalition.org)

Donate

Maryland Coalition of Families | 8950 State Route 108 Suite 223 | Columbia, MD 21045 US

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)



Try email marketing for free today!