



American Urological Association

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February 11, 2020

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TO: Committee Members, Maryland House Health and Government Operations Committee

FROM: American Urological Association, Inc.

RE: SUPPORT – HB 852 (Barron) – Prostate Cancer Screening Coverage

On behalf of the American Urological Association, Inc. (AUA), I am writing to express our support for House Bill (HB) 852, sponsored by House Delegate Erek Barron, which provides coverage for prostate cancer screenings (with no cost-sharing) for men in Maryland. The AUA represents 12,660 U.S. urologists, which includes 438 urologists in Maryland. Our mission is to promote the highest standards of urological clinical care through education, research and the formulation of health care policy.

Prostate cancer is the second-leading cause of cancer deaths among men in the United States and a significant health-care problem due to its high incidence. According to the American Cancer Society, in 2020 alone, more than 4,410 men in Maryland will be diagnosed with prostate cancer. Although one in six men will be diagnosed with prostate cancer in their lifetime, the odds increase to one in five if they are African American, and one in three if they have a family history. Maryland has the 7th highest incidence of prostate cancer in African American men.

The AUA strongly supports legislation that improves access, and quality of health care services for detecting and treating prostate cancer. Early detection of prostate cancer is key and can end the devastating effects of prostate cancer.

We applaud Delegate Erek Barron for introducing this measure and respectfully encourage your “AYE” vote on HB 852 when it is heard in Committee. If you should have any additional questions, please contact Andrea Oh, the AUA’s State Advocacy Manager at (202) 403-8505 or AOh@AUAnet.org.

Sincerely,

William F. Gee, M.D.
Chair, State Advocacy Committee

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