



MARYLAND CITIZENS' HEALTH INITIATIVE

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We at the Maryland Citizens' Health Initiative are thrilled that the O'Malley/Brown Administration continues to make our state the lead state in the nation implementing the Affordable Care Act. As with the previous two years we are once again the envy of state's across the nation with this year's bill, the Maryland Health Progress Act of 2013 (**SB 274/HB 228**).

This bill completes a three year process to ensure that hundreds of thousands of Marylanders that formally had little to no access to quality, affordable health care now have options that have never existed before. The bill promotes transparency, non-discrimination, and fiscal responsibility that will help create a robust marketplace and provide feasible options for many Marylanders left out in the cold. This legislation also makes sure that we continue the progress of 2007 that expanded Medicaid to hundreds of thousands of our fellow citizens.

Maryland Citizens' Health Initiative President, Vinny DeMarco comments, "We thank the Administration for continuing to push forward with legislation that will make sure we all have opportunities to provide coverage for our families. We cannot thank the Maryland General Assembly enough for moving forward with this life saving law. We appreciate our legislators in Annapolis for standing with Maryland's children, mothers, and fathers to pass this critical piece of legislation."

Health Care for All! Deputy Director, Matthew Celentano adds, "We are so excited that Maryland continues to make strides toward our shared goal of quality, affordable health care for all Marylanders. Today's action by the Maryland General Assembly is another step in that direction."

*The **Health Care for All! Coalition** is a broad-based coalition of over 1200 faith, labor, business and community groups that have been working to guarantee all Marylanders access to quality, affordable health care. To learn more, visit <http://www.healthcareforall.com>*

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