



## Senate Bill 716

### *Maryland Council on Health in All Policies - Establishment*

MACo Position: **SUPPORT  
WITH AMENDMENTS**

To: Finance and Education, Health, and  
Environmental Affairs Committees

Date: February 18, 2020

From: Natasha Mehu

The Maryland Association of Counties (MACo) **SUPPORTS WITH AMENDMENTS** SB 716. The bill strives to coordinate state and local health policy efforts but does not incorporate any local perspectives.

SB 716 would establish a Maryland Council on Health in All Policies that is charged with employing a health in all policies framework to examine the health of the residents of the state, ways state and local governments could collaborate to implement policies to improve the health of the state, and a number of additional factors that impact the health of the state. The Council shall also make recommendations on how to incorporate health considerations in the government and private sector decision-making process, as well as foster collaboration between units of state and local governments to develop policies and implement laws and policies to improve health and reduce health inequities.

Counties are willing to partner in bringing forward a health in all policies framework to advance public laws and policies but believe that can only successfully be achieved if counties are also represented on the council to share local perspective and expertise. For these reasons, MACo urges a **FAVORABLE WITH AMENDMENTS** report on SB 716.

#### **MACo Amendment:**

On page 3, after line 25, insert:

**(15) FOUR MEMBERS APPOINTED BY THE MARYLAND ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES.**