



## PRESS RELEASE

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### **Attorney General Frosh Opposes Trump Administration’s Attempt to Use Healthcare Coverage to Ban Immigration**

#### ***Proclamation Seeks to Ban Immigrants Who Do Not Possess Certain Health Insurance or the Ability to Pay for Medical Care***

**BALTIMORE, MD (November 14, 2019)** – Maryland Attorney General Brian E. Frosh has joined a coalition of 22 attorneys general and New York City in support of *Doe, et al. v. Trump, et al.*, a lawsuit filed to challenge the Trump administration’s Health Insurance Proclamation to bar entry for immigrants who do not possess certain health coverage or the ability to pay for medical care. In an amicus brief, the coalition asserts the Proclamation is an unlawful attempt to impose immigration restrictions that contradict laws passed by Congress, including the Affordable Care Act. Under this new requirement, a significant number of applicants who would normally qualify for immigration status would no longer be eligible. Further, the coalition argues that adding this requirement would result in the separation of immigrant families.

“The President’s ‘proclamation’ is yet another attempt to intimidate immigrants who otherwise would be welcomed into the United States from even applying, in direct conflict with immigration laws established by Congress,” said Attorney General Frosh.

The Proclamation would particularly harm Maryland’s healthcare market, as it encourages shorter, term-limited coverage, which in turn would likely lead to uncompensated health care costs that the Proclamation professes to alleviate.

Immigrants are key contributors to Maryland’s economy, and represent every sector of the workforce. The state could suffer substantial economic harm if this Proclamation were to go into effect by decreasing the number of legal immigrants who live and work in Maryland under criteria established by Congress. In Maryland, immigrant-led households contribute billions of dollars in state and local taxes each year, exercise tens of billions of dollars in spending power, and represent almost a fifth of the state’s small business owners.

In filing the amicus brief, Maryland is joined by the attorneys general of California, Connecticut, Delaware, the District of Columbia, Hawaii, Illinois, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Oregon, Nevada, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont, Virginia, and Washington. New York City also joined the amicus brief.