



Larry Hogan, Governor · Boyd K. Rutherford, Lt. Governor · Robert R. Neall, Secretary

Board of Social Work Examiners
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January 30, 2020

The Hon. Paul G. Pinsky, Chairman
Senate Education, Health and Environmental Affairs Committee
2 West Miller Senate Office Building
11 Bladen Street
Annapolis, MD 21401-1991

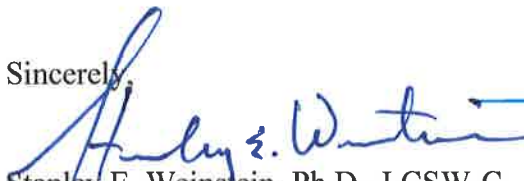
**RE: SB 245 - Health Occupations – Social Workers – Scope of Practice,
Supervision, and Application Decision Appeal Process – Letter of Information**

Dear Chairman Pinsky and committee members:

The State Board of Social Work Examiners (Board) believes that Senate Bill 245 (SB245) is an extremely important bill to Maryland social workers. We respectfully request that the Committee hold this bill for a short period of time so that the Board may work out amendments with the bill sponsor.

As an all-volunteer board with day jobs, the Board was unable to make the quorum required to take a formal position on the specific amendments to the bill prior to the hearing. We hope to work with the bill sponsor to address (1) items regarding alcohol, drug use and addictive behavior counseling and technology; (2) changes regarding the application for independent status; (3) supervision by licensed baccalaureate social workers, and (4) potential revisions to the appeals process.

If you would like to discuss this matter further, please contact me at (410) 764-4722 or at stanley.weinstein@maryland.gov.

Sincerely,

Stanley E. Weinstein, Ph.D., LCSW-C
Executive Director
Maryland Board of Social Work Examiners

The opinion of the Board expressed in this document does not necessarily reflect that of the Department of Health or the Administration.