Board of Nursing

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

March 6, 2020

The Honorable Delores G. Kelley
Chair, Senate Finance Committee
3 East, Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401-1991

RE: SB0752 - Public Health - Non-Controlled Dangerous Substance Prescription Record System Program – Letter of Support with amendments

Dear Chair Kelley:

The Maryland Board of Nursing ("the Board") is submitting this letter of support with amendments for SB0752 - Public Health - Non-Controlled Dangerous Substance Prescription Record System Program.

The Board strongly supports the Program's mission in improving patient safety by allowing practitioners to access a patient's drug history including drugs prescribed by other prescribers. We believe these efforts would help to coordinate patient care by promoting continuity and effective communication between healthcare practitioners as well as reduce unnecessary treatment and cost. We also believe the Program will further aid initiatives utilized by the State of Maryland including the Chesapeake Regional Information System (CRISP) and the prescription drug monitoring program (PDMP).

We are proposing amendments to allow a nurse practitioner to be a part of the NCS Prescription Record System Program Advisory Committee.

For the reasons discussed above, the Board of Nursing submits this letter of support with amendments for SB0752.

Amendment 1. On page 8, after line 11 insert:
(VI) ONE NURSE PRACTITIONER, LICENSED AND PRACTICING IN THE STATE, NOMINATED BY THE NURSE PRACTITIONERS ASSOCIATION OF MARYLAND.

For more information, please contact Rhonda Scott, Deputy Director, at (410) – 585 – 1953 (rhonda.scott2@maryland.gov) or Karen E. B. Evans, Executive Director, at (410) – 585 – 1914 (karene.evans@maryland.gov).

Sincerely,

Gary N. Hicks
Board President

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