



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

BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL COUNSELORS AND THERAPISTS

4201 Patterson Avenue, Suite 316, Baltimore, Maryland 21215-2299

2020 SESSION POSITION PAPER

BILL NO: HB 303

COMMITTEE: Health and Government Operations

POSITION: Support

TITLE: State Board of Professional Counselors and Therapists – Sunset Extension and Program Evaluation

BILL ANALYSIS: The bill (the “Sunset Bill”) extends the termination provisions relating to the Board; repeals the requirement that the Board submit a semiannual report to the Department of Legislative Services and instead requires the Board to submit semiannual reports to certain committees of the General Assembly on or before a certain date and at certain intervals thereafter; and requires the report to address the progress made in addressing the Board’s complaint backlog, adopting regulations, and establishing an Alcohol and Drug Counselor Subcommittee.

POSITION AND RATIONALE: The Board supports each of the following requirements set forth in HB 303:

Termination Date: The extension of the termination provisions relating to the statutory and regulatory authority of the Board until July 1, 2026.

Progress Reports: The requirement that the Board submit progress reports to certain subcommittees of the General Assembly every 6 months beginning October 1, 2020, and every 6 months thereafter until October 1, 2025. The Board will report on its progress as it relates to the complaint backlog, the adoption of regulations and the establishment of an Alcohol and Drug Subcommittee.

If you would like more information, please contact the Board’s Executive Director, Kim Link, at (410) 764-4732 or kimberly.link@maryland.gov.

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