



**TESTIMONY FOR SB0243**  
**Secretary of Health – Professional Qualification Requirement**

**Bill Sponsor:** Senator Feldman

**Committee:** Finance

**Organization Submitting:** Maryland Legislative Coalition

**Person Submitting:** Cecilia Plante, co-chair

**Position:** FAVORABLE

I am submitting this testimony in favor of SB0243 on behalf of the Maryland Legislative Coalition. The Maryland Legislative Coalition is an association of individuals and grassroots groups with members in every district in the state with well over 30,000 members.

We shouldn't have to specify the obvious – that the person who is directing health policy in our state is actually qualified to do that. But today we are living in a world where Secretary-level positions are being handed out to people who are not qualified to even speak on a subject, much less provide help and support to the public. Things being what they are, this is an important, and genuinely necessary step.

This bill will require that the Secretary of Health to be professionally qualified in health law or policy, health care facilities administration, health economics or financial management, government operations related to health care or as a health care provider. Eminently reasonable.

We support this bill and recommend a **FAVORABLE** report in committee.