

2022 MNA SB 729 Senate Side FAV.pdf

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Position: FAV



Committee: Senate Finance Committee

Bill: Senate Bill 729 – State Board of Nursing – Sunset Extension

Hearing Date: March 7, 2023

Position: Support

The Maryland Nurses Association (MNA) supports *Senate Bill 729 – State Board of Nursing – Sunset Extension*. This bill would ensure that the Board of Nursing, as well as all the statutory authorizations for its licensees and certificate holders to practice, would be continued through 2026. After which, the Maryland General Assembly would consider extending the sunset date further. If you need any additional information, please contact Robyn Elliott at relliott@policypartners.net.

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Committee: Senate Finance Committee

Bill: Senate Bill 729 – State Board of Nursing – Sunset Extension

Hearing Date: March 7, 2023

Position: Support

The Maryland Affiliate of the American College of Nurse-Midwives (ACNM) supports *Senate Bill 729 – State Board of Nursing – Sunset Extension*. This bill would ensure that the Board of Nursing, as well as all the statutory authorizations for its licensees and certificate holders to practice, would be continued through 2026. After which, the Maryland General Assembly would consider extending the sunset date further. ACNM is aware there is alternative sunset legislation for the Board. We stress that it is imperative that one of the bills passes this session. If you need any additional information, please contact Robyn Elliott at relliott@policypartners.net.

7a - SB 729 - FIN - MBON - LOS.docx.pdf

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Position: FAV



Board of Nursing

Wes Moore, Governor · Aruna Miller, Lt. Governor · Laura Herrera Scott, M.D., M.P.H., Secretary

March 7, 2023

The Honorable Melony Griffith
Chair, Senate Finance Committee
3 East Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401-1991

RE: SB 729 – State Board of Nursing – Sunset Extension – Letter of Support

Dear Chair Griffith and Committee Members:

The Maryland Board of Nursing (the Board) respectfully submits this letter of support for Senate Bill (SB) 729 – State Board of Nursing – Sunset Extension. This bill continues the State Board of Nursing in accordance with the provisions of the Maryland Program Evaluation Act (sunset law) by extending to a certain date the termination provisions relating to the statutory and regulatory authority of the Board.

The Board is appreciative of the bill sponsor's efforts to introduce legislation to extend the Board's termination of title (sunset), as it is currently listed to expire on July 1, 2023. This provision would allow the Board to perform its regulatory and administrative duties to preserve the field of nursing by advancing safe, quality care through licensure, certification, education, and accountability for public protection. It is imperative for the Board to continue to oversee the practice of nursing and other affiliated professions¹ in the state of Maryland.

For the reasons discussed above, the Maryland Board of Nursing respectfully submits this letter of support for SB 729.

I hope this information is useful. For more information, please contact Ms. Iman Farid, Health Planning and Development Administrator, at iman.farid@maryland.gov or Ms. Rhonda Scott, Deputy Director, at (410) 585 – 1953 (rhonda.scott2@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.

¹ The Board of Nursing is mandated to regulate the practice of registered nurses, licensed practical nurses, advanced practice registered nurses, certified nursing assistants, certified medication technicians, certified dialysis technicians, licensed electrologists, licensed direct entry midwives, and licensed certified midwives.

7b - SB 729 - FIN - MDH- LOSWA.docx.pdf

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Position: FWA



Wes Moore, Governor · Aruna Miller, Lt. Governor · Laura Herrera Scott, M.D., M.P.H., Secretary

March 7, 2023

The Honorable Melony Griffith
Chair, Senate Finance Committee
2 West Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

RE: SB 729 - State Board of Nursing– Sunset Extension - Letter of Support with Amendments

Dear Chair Griffith and Committee Members:

The Maryland Department of Health (MDH) respectfully submits this letter of support with amendments for Senate Bill (SB) 729 - State Board of Nursing – Sunset Extension. SB 729 extends the termination provisions relating to the statutory and regulatory authority of the Maryland Board of Nursing for three (3) years, until July 1, 2026.

The Maryland Board of Nursing (the Board) licenses and regulates over 200,000 nurses. As such, the Board makes up about half of the roughly 400,000 total health occupation board licensees in Maryland. These nurses are the backbone of our state’s healthcare delivery system and having a Board that can function efficiently in all of its responsibilities, including administrative processes, is crucial to meeting the needs of Maryland’s nurses. The careful consideration of the Board’s purpose and operations, including ensuring that licensing is protecting public health and safety and that licensing is not overly broad or burdensome is an important role of a sunset evaluation and extension.¹

HB 611 (2023), which passed the House unanimously on February 16, 2023, has been referred to Senate Finance. This bill will grant the Secretary of Health authority over the Board’s infrastructure operations through June 30, 2025. Moreover, it will allow MDH to work with and support the Board to improve their administrative and infrastructure operations. During this time, MDH will evaluate and assess ongoing concerns related to Board operations, technology, and administrative functions. As such, MDH respectfully submits an amendment to shorten the sunset date for the Board from three (3) years to align with the sunset in HB 611, June 30, 2025.

If you have any questions please contact Megan Peters, Acting Director, Office of Governmental Affairs, at megan.peters@maryland.gov or (410) 260-3190.

Sincerely,

Laura Herrera Scott, M.D, M.P.H.
Secretary

¹ <https://www.ncsl.org/labor-and-employment/sunset-and-sunrise>

Amendment 1

On page 2, line 3 strike “July 1, 2026” and insert “June 30, 2025.”