

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.

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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.