



Committee: House Health and Government Operations Committee

Bill Number: House Bill 418

Title: Mental Health - Workforce Development - Fund Established

Hearing Date: February 21, 2023

Position: Support

The Licensed Clinical Professional Counselors of Maryland (LCPCM) supports *House Bill 418 - Mental Health – Workforce Development – Fund Established*. The bill establishes a workgroup to make recommendations on programs that support addressing the health professional shortage in behavioral health. The bill also creates a special fund that could be used to implement the workgroup’s recommendations in the future.

LCPCM supports the goal of establishing dedicated resources to increasing the number of behavioral health professionals. We would like to participate in the workgroup that will frame how Maryland can attract new behavioral health professionals as well as retain our existing workforce. Licensed clinical professional counselors (LCPCs) work in multiple settings including community-based programs and private practice, and we serve people in every age group, demographic, and communities.

We ask for a favorable report with our amendment. If we can provide any further information, please contact Robyn Elliott at relliott@policypartners.net or (443) 926-3443.