



The Maryland Clinical Social Work Coalition

The Mdcswc, sponsored by the Greater Washington Society for Clinical Social Work, represents the interests of more than 9,300 licensed clinical social workers in Maryland.

TO: The Honorable Joseline A. Pena-Melnyk, Chair
Members, House Health and Government Operations Committee
The Honorable Lesley J. Lopez

FROM: Judith Gallant, LCSW-C, Chair, Maryland Clinical Social Work Coalition

DATE: February 22, 2023

RE: **SUPPORT** – House Bill 454 – *Health Occupations – Licenses, Certificates, and Registrations – Immigrants*

The Maryland Clinical Social Work Coalition (Mdcswc), sponsored by the Greater Washington Society for Clinical Social Work, represents the interests of more than 9,300 licensed clinical social workers in Maryland. On behalf of Mdcswc, we **support** House Bill 454.

The bill prohibits a professional board from denying a license to an immigrant, if the person otherwise meets all educational, training, and professional requirements for licensure. During a time when Maryland is facing a health care workforce shortage, exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic, this bill takes a commonsense approach for increasing the pipeline of qualified candidates. Mdcswc supports a diverse workforce and supports House Bill 454.

For more information call:

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