



Committee: House Ways and Means Committee

Bill Number: House Bill 488 - Janet L. Hoffman Loan Assistance Repayment Program - Mental Health Professionals in Public Schools

Hearing Date: February 15, 2023

Position: Favorable with Amendments

The Licensed Clinical Professional Counselors of Maryland (LCPCM) supports *House Bill 488 – Janet L. Hoffman Loan Assistance Repayment Program – Mental Health Professionals in Public Schools*. The bill establishes permanent eligibility for mental health professionals in schools to participate in the Janet L. Hoffman Loan Assistance Repayment Program.

LCPCM supports this bill as part of the strategy to address health professional shortages in schools. We would like to request an amendment to clarify that licensed clinical professional counselors (LCPCs) would be included in the new eligibility category of “Mental Health Professionals in Public Schools.” LCPCs may already participate in the Janet L. Hoffman Loan Assistance Repayment Program if they meet the criteria of working in an underserved area.ⁱ

On page 2 in line 12 insert “LICENSED CLINICAL PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR” after “SOCIAL WORK SUPERVISOR”

We ask for a favorable report with this amendment. If we can provide any further information, please contact Robyn Elliott at relliott@policypartners.net.

ⁱ https://mhec.maryland.gov/preparing/Pages/FinancialAid/ProgramDescriptions/prog_larp.aspx