



Maryland
Acupuncture
Society

January 15, 2024

By Email

The Honorable Pamela Beidle, Chair
Senate Finance Committee
3 East Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

Re: SB 236 State Acupuncture Board – Sunset Extension – Letter of Information

Dear Chairman, Beidle:

As President of the Maryland Acupuncture Society, I offer the following information in regard to the inaction by the Board of Acupuncture. We ask that before any extension to the Board is granted, they are required to promptly commit and comply with their statutory obligations that have been lacking since 2021.

The Comment period began in 2019 to address proposed regulations that would refine the definition of the 'practice of acupuncture' and other reforms, but nothing has made it to final approval.

On August 27, 2021, **Subtitle 26 BOARD OF ACUPUNCTURE Notice of Proposed Action** was presented in the Maryland Register (Volume 48, Issue 18, pages 700-703) for public opinion. The Maryland Board of Acupuncture (MAS) received comments from other health occupation boards.

The Maryland Acupuncture Society requested that the Maryland Board of Acupuncture address concerns and update the proposed regulations. This action has not occurred. MAS requests that our professional regulations are updated prior to sunset. Licensed Acupuncturists in Maryland have been waiting for our professional regulations to be updated since 2019.

We appreciate your attention to this issue and look forward to the Board explaining the delay and its plan to promptly resolve the pending regulations.

Kindest regards,

Denise C. Tyson, M.B.A., D.O.M., L.Ac.

President, Maryland Acupuncture Society