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Board of Acupuncture
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**2024 SESSION
POSITION PAPER**

BILL NO: SB 236
COMMITTEE: Finance
POSITION: Support

TITLE: State Acupuncture Board – Sunset Extension

BILL ANALYSIS: As required by the provisions of the Maryland Program Evaluation Act (sunset law), the purpose of the bill is to extend the termination provisions relating to the statutory and regulatory authority of the State Board of Acupuncture (“the Board”) for 3 years until July 1, 2028.

POSITION AND RATIONALE: The Board *supports* SB 236.

The Board regulates the practice of Acupuncture and East Asian Medicine, including the animal Acupuncture specialty and Auricular Detoxification. For more than 30 years, the Board has worked to protect the public through the administration of licensing and all the related processes. With more than 1,200 licensed and certified practitioners, in an environment where the practice of non-Western medicines such as Acupuncture and East Asian Medicine are gaining prominence in healthcare, the Board is prepared to continue to serve the residents of Maryland; communicating the expectation and enforcing the standard of providing the highest quality of care to all licensees.

Thank you for your attention and consideration of this bill. The Board of Acupuncture respectfully requests a favorable report on SB 236.

If you require additional information, please contact the Board’s Executive Director Tiffany L. Smith-Williams at (410) 764-5925 or tiffany.smith-williams@maryland.gov.

The opinion of the Board expressed in this document does not necessarily reflect that of the Department of Health or the Administration.