

HB1105-FIN-FAV.pdf

Uploaded by: Nina Themelis

Position: FAV



BRANDON M. SCOTT
MAYOR

Office of Government Relations
88 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

HB1105

March 21, 2024

TO: Members of the Senate Finance Committee

FROM: Nina Themelis, Director of Mayor's Office of Government Relations

RE: House Bill 1105 – Advanced Practice Registered Nurses - Certification Requirement and Exceptions

POSITION: FAVORABLE

Chair Beidle, Vice Chair Klausmeier, and Members of the Committee, please be advised that the Baltimore City Administration (BCA) **supports** House Bill (HB) 1105.

HB 1105 requires that an individual be certified and licensed by the Board of Nursing as an advanced practice registered nurse or licensed practical nurse before practicing nursing in the State. Certification and licensure for nursing create “an environment of professionalism...and provide validation of experience, knowledge, and skills.”ⁱⁱ

Study results showed that hospitals with a higher percentage of certified nurses had lower 30-day death rates and failure-to-rescue rates for surgical patients compared to hospitals with lower nursing certification rates.ⁱⁱ Nurses with certifications have also reported higher job satisfaction rates compared to non-certified nurses.ⁱⁱⁱ Certification and licensing can contribute to a sense of empowerment for nurses and lead to workforce retention. According to the Maryland Hospital Association, nearly one in four hospital nursing positions in the state are vacant, with Central Maryland (which includes Baltimore) having the highest vacancy rate at nearly 30%.^{iv} Support of certification and licensing nursing programs will solidify investments into nursing education, which can lead to high job satisfaction for this workforce and help alleviate job turnover.

For these reasons, the BCA respectfully requests a **favorable** report on HB 1105.

ⁱ American Association of Critical Care Nurses. (n.d.). Certification Benefits Patients, Employers and Nurses. Retrieved from <https://www.aacn.org/certification/value-of-certification-resource-center/nurse-certification-benefits-patients-employers-and-nurses#:~:text=1%20RN%20licensure%20measures%20entry-level%20competence.%20Certification%20validates,make%20decisions%20with%20greater%20confidence.%20...%20More%20items>

ⁱⁱ Kendall-Gallagher, D., Aiken, L. H., Sloane, D. M., & Cimiotti, J. P. (2011). Nurse specialty certification, inpatient mortality, and failure to rescue. *Journal of nursing scholarship* : an official publication of Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing, 43(2), 188–194. <https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1547-5069.2011.01391.x>

ⁱⁱⁱ Wei, H., Horsley, L., Cao, Y., Haddad, L., Hall, K., Robinson, R., Powers, M., & Gay Anderson, D. (2023). The associations among nurse work engagement, job satisfaction, quality of care, and intent to leave: A national survey in the United States. *International Journal of Nursing Sciences*, 10(4), 476-484. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ijnss.2023.09.010>.

^{iv} Maryland Hospital Association. (2022). 2022 State of Maryland's Health Care Workforce Report. Retrieved from <https://www.mhaonline.org/docs/default-source/default-document-library/2022-state-of-maryland-s-health-care-workforce-report.pdf>

HB 1105 - FIN - MBON - LOS.docx.pdf

Uploaded by: Rhonda Scott

Position: FAV



Board of Nursing

Wes Moore, Governor · Aruna Miller, Lt. Governor · Laura Herrera Scott, M.D., M.P.H., Secretary

March 19, 2024

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

RE: HB 1105 – APRN - Certification Requirement and Exceptions – Letter of Support

Dear Chair Beidle and Committee Members:

The Maryland Board of Nursing (the Board) respectfully submits this letter of support for House Bill (HB) 1105 – APRN - Certification Requirement and Exceptions. This bill requires an individual, subject to certain exceptions, to be certified as an advanced practice registered nurse before practicing advanced practice registered nursing in the State.

Health Occupations Article §8–301, Annotated Code of Maryland, is insufficiently clear in its authorization for advanced practice registered nursing students to practice advanced practice registered nursing in accordance with their education, clinical training, and scopes of practice. This bill clarifies that advanced practice registered nursing students who are enrolled in a graduate level accredited education program are permitted to practice advanced practice registered nursing without having to obtain a certificate, in accordance with regulations adopted by the Board. This change will reduce the number of inquiries received from advanced practice registered nurses who are completing their clinical rotations and codify more clearly existing conditions for students.

For the reasons discussed above, the Maryland Board of Nursing respectfully submits this letter of support for HB 1105.

I hope this information is useful. For more information, please contact Ms. Mitzi Fishman, Director of Legislative Affairs, at 410-585-2049 or mitzi.fishman@maryland.gov, or Ms. Rhonda Scott, Executive Director, at 410-585-1953 or rhonda.scott2@maryland.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "G. Hicks", written in a cursive style.

Gary N. Hicks
Board President

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

2024 ACNM HB 1105 Senate Side.pdf

Uploaded by: Robyn Elliott

Position: FAV



Committee: Senate Finance Committee

Bill Number: House Bill 1105 – Advanced Practice Registered Nurses – Certification Requirement and Exceptions

Hearing Date: March 21, 2024

Position: Support

The Maryland Affiliate of the American College of Nurse Midwives (ACNM)) supports *House Bill 1105 – Advanced Practice Registered Nurses – Certification Requirement and Exceptions*. The bill simply clarifies that advanced practice registered nursing students may practice under clinical supervision before being certified to practice in Maryland. ACNM supported similar legislation last year, HB 717/SB 368 (Delegate Bagnall/Senator Lam) which provided similar clarification for licensed certified midwives.

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

2024 MNA HB 1105 Senate Side.pdf

Uploaded by: Robyn Elliott

Position: FAV



Committee: Senate Finance Committee

Bill Number: House Bill 1105 – Advanced Practice Registered Nurses – Certification Requirement and Exceptions

Hearing Date: March 21, 2024

Position: Support

The Maryland Nurses Association (MNA) supports *House Bill 1105 – Advanced Practice Registered Nurses – Certification Requirement and Exceptions*. The bill clarifies that students in accredited advanced practice nursing programs are exempt from certification requirements under the Maryland Board of Nursing. This clarification is important, as students must be able to practice under appropriate clinical supervision in order to graduate and be eligible to practice.

We ask for a favorable report. If you need any additional information, please contact Robyn Elliott at relliott@policypartners.net.

HB 1105 - FIN - MBON - LOS.docx.pdf

Uploaded by: State of Maryland (MD)

Position: FAV



Board of Nursing

Wes Moore, Governor · Aruna Miller, Lt. Governor · Laura Herrera Scott, M.D., M.P.H., Secretary

March 19, 2024

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

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Gary N. Hicks
Board President

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2024 HB1105 APRN Certification.pdf

Uploaded by: Deborah Brocato

Position: INFO



Opposition Statement HB1105

Advanced Practice Registered Nurses –
Certification Requirement and Exceptions
Deborah Brocato, Legislative Consultant
Maryland Right to Life

We oppose HB1105.

On behalf of our 200,000 followers across the state, we respectfully yet strongly object to HB1105. Maryland Right to Life requests an amendment to exclude abortion purposes being used for this bill or unfavorable report.

As written, HB1105 diminishes professional standards of patient care by loosening the licensing standards by which one may practice Advance Practice Registered Nursing (APRN). Specifically, the bill removes the licensing requirement in the many instances listed on page 2. In the context of other bills being moved through the General Assembly, such as the Advanced Practice Registered Nurse Compact, this bill compounds the erosion of medical care. The combined result of these and other bills will leave Marylanders with a reduced standard of medical care. Of great concern is the ability of more healthcare practitioners with uncertain licensure to prescribe the dangerous abortion pills. With a nurse compact, abortion pills could be prescribed across state lines, and this is obviously done without benefit of the in-person exam. All of this leads to increased risk for the women and girls of Maryland. Without specific language excluding the application of this bill to abortion, those who do not currently hold the APRN license could prescribe lethal chemical abortion drugs, putting more pregnant women and girls at risk for injury and death. This bill must be considered in the legislative context in which the Assembly continues to expand scope of practice and loosen licensing requirements.

The Abortion Care Access Act of 2022 removed the physician requirement for abortion services thereby removing a level of safety for women and girls. The physician has many more years of training and education than the nurse midwife which affords him/her greater knowledge of the overall health status of the pregnant woman or girl. The physician has greater capability of determining possible complications of pregnancy such as ectopic pregnancy, molar pregnancy or other abnormal gestation. Use of the abortion pill has resulted in at least 20 deaths and over 2,000 adverse events. (see NIH article and Lifeneews article)

Put patients before profits. The abortion industry is asking the state to authorize them to put profits over patients. Maryland Right to Life opposes introduction or passage of any bill dealing with the “scope of practice” of any health care professional which doesn’t include language excluding abortion. Scope or independence of practice typically describes the procedures, actions, and processes that a healthcare practitioner is permitted to undertake in keeping with the terms of their professional license.



We take this position because it has long been the strategy of the pro-abortion movement to use a broad definition of that “scope” as a means to increasing the number of lower healthcare professionals licensed to provide abortion services. Expanding the number of people who can provide abortion will increase the number of unborn children being killed and will put more women at risk of substandard medical care, injury and death.

The medical scarcity in abortion practice is a matter of medical ethics not provider scarcity, as 9 out of 10 OB/Gyn’s refuse to commit abortions because they recognize the scientific fact that a human fetus is a living human being. The abortion industry’s solution is three-fold: (1) authorize lower-skilled workers and non-physicians to perform abortion, and (2) authorize abortionists to remotely prescribe abortion pills across state lines.

D-I-Y Abortions: While the Supreme Court imposed legal abortion on the states in their 1973 decisions *Roe v. Wade* and *Doe v. Bolton*, the promise was that abortion would be safe, legal and rare. But in 2016, the Court’s decision in *Whole Woman’s Health v. Hellerstedt* prioritized “mere access” to abortion facilities and abortion industry profitability over women’s health and safety.

The abortion industry itself has referred to the use of abortion pills as “Do-It-Yourself” abortions, claiming that the method is safe and easy. But chemical abortions are 4 times more dangerous than surgical abortions, presenting a high risk of hemorrhaging, infection, and even death. With the widespread distribution of chemical abortion pills, the demand on Emergency Room personnel to deal with abortion complications has increased 250%. Now, with TELABORTION, pregnant women and girls are further exposed to the predatory practices of the abortion industry.

The women and girls of Maryland deserve better than lowered medical standards of care. Maryland Right to Life urges an amendment to exclude abortion purposes from this bill. Without it, we ask for an unfavorable report for **HB1105**.