

Committee:	Health and Government Operations
Bill Number:	House Bill 34 – Interstate Social Work Licensure Compact
Hearing Date:	February 1, 2024
Position:	Support

The Coordinating Center supports *House Bill 34 – Interstate Social Work Licensure Compact* because it supports continuity of care for our clients. The bill would allow licensed clinical social workers (LCSWs) in Maryland to provide services to patients in other compact states without obtaining a separate license. This legislation is already being considered by 23 states, including nearby states of Pennsylvania, Virginia, and New Jersey.

Our organization provides care coordination through to clients enrolled in Community First Choice and many of Maryland Medicaid's home and community-based service waivers. With complex medical needs, our clients sometimes need to be hospitalized out-of-state for specialty care. If Maryland participated in the Social Work Licensure Compact, our LCSWs would be able to coordinate care for clients as the travel for any reason, including medical care, without fear of licensure repercussions. The Compact would support The Coordinating Center and other providers in ensuring the continuity of care for our clients.

We ask for a favorable report. If we can provide any additional information that is helpful, please contact Robyn Elliott at <u>relliott@policypartners.net</u>.