



MARYLAND LEGISLATIVE LATINO CAUCUS

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TO: Delegate Joseline A. Pena-Melnyk, Chair
Delegate Bonnie Cullison, Vice Chair
Health and Government Operations Committee Members

FROM: Maryland Legislative Latino Caucus

DATE: 2/15/2024

RE: HB380 - State Emergency Medical Service Board - License and Certificates - Application Requirements

The MLLC supports HB380 - State Emergency Medical Service Board - License and Certificates - Application Requirements, 2024

The MLLC is a bipartisan group of Senators and Delegates committed to supporting legislation that improves the lives of Latinos throughout our state. The MLLC is a crucial voice in the development of public policy that uplifts the Latino community and benefits the state of Maryland. Thank you for allowing us the opportunity to express our support of HB380.

Immigrants make up around 15% of Maryland's population, according to data from the American Immigration Council, with only 54% of these immigrants being naturalized citizens.¹ Immigrants already make up one-third of healthcare service workers, with over 100,000 immigrants employed in this sector.² However, it is estimated that about 263,000 health professionals who were immigrants were unable to work in 2020 due to barriers in professional licenses.³

This legislation will provide health professionals who are immigrants with an opportunity to become health service workers. HB380 will prohibit the State Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Board from requiring that an applicant provide proof that the applicant is lawfully present in the United States or has a Social Security number or Individual Taxpayer Identification Number as a condition for licensure, certification or registration as a condition for licensure or certification; and will require the EMS Board to require applicants for a license or certificate to disclose, as permitted under federal law, specific alternative documentation and record the information in the applicant's file.

For these reasons, the Maryland Legislative Latino Caucus respectfully requests a favorable report on HB380.

¹ [Delegate Jared Solomon's State Emergency Medical Services Board – Licenses and Certificates Fact Sheet/One-pager.](#)

² Ibid

³ Ibid