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Maryland Board of Occupational Therapy Practice
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**2024 SESSION
POSITION PAPER**

BILL NO: SB 239
COMMITTEE: HGO
POSITION: Support

TITLE: State Board of Occupational Therapy Practice—Sunset Extension

BILL ANALYSIS: This bill, as amended, would continue the State Board of Maryland Occupational Therapy Practice (the “Board”) in accordance with the provision of Maryland Program Evaluation Act (sunset law) be extending the Board’s existence to July 1, 2028.

POSITION AND RATIONALE: The Board supports SB 239.

There are currently 3,984 occupational therapists and 1,082 occupational therapy assistants licensed in the state of Maryland, and the Board renews their licenses every two years. The Board is able to issue most licenses within 72 hours of receiving all documentation from applicants and continues to keep the public safe by making sure that all licensees are in compliance with State regulations. The passing of this bill will ensure that the Board will still be able to license eligible candidates as occupational therapists and occupational therapy assistants in addition to providing the public with the reassurance that their practitioners are following all statutes and regulations.

The Board supports SB 239 and respectfully asks to extend the termination provisions relating to the statutory and regulatory authority of the Board. Thank you for your consideration of this testimony.

If you require additional information, please contact Lauren Murray, Executive Director of the Maryland Board of Occupational Therapy Practice at 410-402-8556 or lauren.murray@maryland.gov.

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