

**Testimony Before the House Health & Government Operations Committee  
February 22, 2024**

**HB 1289 - State Board of Social Work Examiners - Practice Social Work -  
Definition and Scope of Authority**

**\*\*Letter of Information\*\***

The National Association of Social Workers – Maryland Chapter is a professional organization representing over 3,000 social workers statewide. We are submitting this letter of information on House Bill 1289.

This bill basically addresses three things. First, NASW-MD believes that the issue of treating biopsychosocial conditions is already addressed in statute and the definition on page 2, lines 10-14 are not necessary.

Second, NASW-MD believes that the Board of Social Worker Examiners already has the authority to promulgate regulations, and the proposed language on page 4 is not necessary.

Finally, NASW-MD believes while it may be convenient to list in our Title all of the places in the Maryland Code where social workers are explicitly allowed to conduct certain activities, we are concerned that this list would be misinterpreted as exclusive, and that any time there is a change in the law, this section would have to be updated.

Respectfully,

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Executive Director, NASW-MD