



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

March 19, 2024

The Honorable Joseline A. Peña-Melnyk
Chair, House Health Government Operations Committee
3 East Miller Senate Building
Annapolis, MD 21401-1991

**RE: Senate Bill 239 - State Board of Occupational Therapy Practice—Sunset Extension
Letter of Support**

Dear Chair Beidle and Committee Members:

The Maryland Department of Health (the Department) respectfully submits this letter of support for Senate Bill 239 — State Board of Occupational Therapy Practice—Sunset Extension. This legislation extends the sunset date of the Board from June 30, 2025 to June 30, 2028.

The Department is taking a uniform approach to recommended sunset extensions for our independent health occupations boards. A more thorough evaluation of the Health Occupations Boards is needed at this time to assess ongoing concerns related to licensure, technology, and administrative functions. The Department believes a three year sunset extension allows ample time for the Department and the Boards to examine these functions and return to the General Assembly in 2026 with an update.

If you would like to discuss this further, please do not hesitate to contact Sarah Case-Herron, Director of Governmental Affairs at sarah.case-herron@maryland.gov or (410) 260-3190.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Laura Herrera Scott", is written over a faint, light blue outline of the state of Maryland.

Laura Herrera Scott, M.D., M.P.H.
Secretary

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