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February 15, 2024

The Honorable Joseline A. Pena-Melnyk Chair, House Health and Government Operations Committee House Office Building, Room 241 6 Bladen St Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Chair Joseline A. Pena-Melnyk,

On behalf of the majority of the Women Legislators of Maryland members, we are writing to support **HB393 Higher Education – Maryland Dent-Care Program - Eligibility**.

This bill expands eligibility for the Maryland Dent-Care Program to include part-time dentists and dental hygienists who are practicing under a general or limited license. This legislation ensures the expansion of the Maryland Dent-Care Program to part-time dentists and dental hygienists. The Women Legislators of Maryland recognize that a large majority of part-time dentists and dental hygienists who are practicing under a general or limited license are women and that the expansion of this program will increase opportunities for women. The Women Legislators of Maryland fully support the expansion of opportunities for women and, therefore, offer full support for this bill.

Sincerely,

Delegate Edith J. Patterson

President