

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

Maryland Board of Occupational Therapy Practice 55 Wade Avenue, Tuerk Bldg, 2nd Fl Baltimore, MD 21228

February 5, 2025

The Honorable Senator Beidle Chair, Finance Committee 3 East Senate Miller Office Building11 Bladen Street Annapolis, MD 21401-1991

RE: Senate Bill 372- Preserve Telehealth Access Act of 2025 - Letter of Support

Dear Chair Beidle and Committee Members:

The Maryland Board of Occupational Therapy Practice is submitting this letter of Support for Senate Bill 372 – Preserve Telehealth Access Act of 2025.

For years, telehealth has been a very useful tool for the practice of occupational therapy. Once the pandemic hit, it became a necessity, and both occupational therapists and occupational therapy assistants found that many therapeutic acts such as video training and monitoring with consumers and care providers could be accomplished via telehealth. Due to its ease for both the therapists and the patients, the Maryland Board of Occupational Therapy Practice would find it detrimental if there were to be limits on the amount or continuation of services via telehealth.

I hope this information is useful. If you would like to discuss this further, please contact me at <u>lauren.murray@maryland.gov</u> or at 410-402-8556.

Sincerely,

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Lauren Murray, Executive Director Maryland Board of Occupational Therapy Practice

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