



Committee: Senate Finance

Bill Number: Senate Bill 216

Title: Health Occupations – Nursing – Loan Repayment, Education, and Sunset Extension (Building Opportunities for Nurses Act of 2025)

Hearing Date: January 28, 2025

Position: Support

The Maryland Affiliate of the American College of Nurse Midwives (ACNM) supports *Senate Bill 216 – Health Occupations – Nursing – Loan Repayment, Education, and Sunset Extension (Building Opportunities for Nurses Act of 2025)*. The bill takes a multi-pronged strategy in addressing the nursing shortage by: 1) Updating and extending a loan repayment program for nurses, including certified nurse-midwives and other advanced practice registered nurses; 2) Extending a tax credit program for preceptors of nurse practitioner students; and 2) streamlining the licensure process for nurses with out-of-state licenses.

The nursing shortage in Maryland, as well as across the country, has impacted access to quality care.ⁱ ACNM appreciates the Department of Health (MDH) and the Maryland Board of Nursing's (MBONs) efforts to continue to seek solutions, even in this fiscal climate. With this bill, MDH and MBON are taking a thoughtful approach to build upon our existing loan repayment, preceptorship support, and licensure by endorsement models.

We ask for a favorable report on this legislation. If we can provide any further information, please contact Robyn Elliott at relliott@policypartners.net or (443) 926-3443.

ⁱ Leary KB, Lee M, Mossburg S. Patient Safety Amid Nursing Workforce Challenges . PSNet [internet]. Rockville (MD): Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, US Department of Health and Human Services. 2024.

