



## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

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

January 30, 2024

The Honorable Joseline A. Pena-Melnyk  
Chair, Health and Government Operations Committee  
240 Taylor House Office Building  
Annapolis, MD 21401

**RE: HB 565 – State Board of Pharmacy – Renewal Notices – Electronic Means  
Letter of Support**

Dear Chair Pena-Melnyk and Committee Members:

The Maryland Board of Pharmacy (the “Board”) respectfully submits this letter of support for Senate Bill (“SB”) 371 titled “State Board of Pharmacy – Renewal Notices – Electronic Means.” SB 371 is designed to streamline the renewal process and make the licensing process more efficient.

The mission of the Board is to protect Maryland consumers and to promote quality health care in the field of pharmacy, through licensing pharmacists, pharmacy technicians, pharmacy interns, pharmacies, and wholesale distributors; setting the standards for the practice of pharmacy through regulations and legislation; receiving and resolving complaints and educating consumers.

Allowing the board to issue the notices of licensure renewal electronically would alleviate the administrative burden and costs to the Board associated with printing and mailing notices to its licensees. In addition, this will permit licensees to receive notice of their upcoming renewal quicker and more efficiently. Please note that the bill provides licensees with the option to opt out of the electronic notice of renewal process. Further, should the board receive a notification that the licensee’s email address is incorrect, the renewal notice will be mailed to the licensee’s current address of record via first-class mail.

The Board will disseminate information regarding the electronic renewal notices to licensees and the general public via three (3) platforms: website, email blasts, and the Board’s newsletter to ensure that licensees and the general public are educated about the new electronic renewal notice procedure. Licensees will also be provided with instructions as to how to opt out of the electronic notice process, if desired.

The Board proudly serves the citizens of Maryland and enthusiastically supports SB 371 and urge a favorable report on this bill.

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Chairperson Pena-Melnyk  
Health and Government Operations Committee  
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For more information, please contact Julie Gaskins, Legislative Liaison, at 410-764-4709 or [julie.gaskins2@maryland.gov](mailto:julie.gaskins2@maryland.gov), or Deena Speights-Napata, MA, Executive Director, Maryland Board of Pharmacy (410) 764-4753.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Deena".

Deena Speights-Napata, M.A.  
Executive Director

Sincerely,

Deena Speights-Napata, M.A.  
Executive Director