



March 18, 2025

Senator Pamela Beidle
Chair, Senate Committee on Finance
3 East Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: Support for SB 174

Dear Chair Beidle and members of the Finance Committee:

On behalf of Teladoc Health, I write to express support for SB 174. Enacting the Social Work Licensure Compact in Maryland would be a positive step forward to expedite the process by which out-of-state licensed social workers can treat in-state patients.

By way of background, Teladoc Health is the world's largest telehealth company with more than 5,000 employees. We deliver health care in 175 countries and in more than 40 languages. We partner with employers, hospitals, health systems, and more than 50 health insurance plans in all 50 states – including Maryland – to transform health care delivery. Teladoc Health provides health care services to more than 40 percent of Fortune 500 employers as well as thousands of small businesses, labor unions and public-sector employers which offer our virtual care services to their employees.

Reports over the past several years have shown that mental health crises continue to increase among U.S. residents. More and more patients turn to virtual and in-person care to seek timely, high-quality behavioral health care services. Unfortunately, the increased demand for these services can – and often does – surpass the number of available, in-state licensed professionals who can treat patients in a timely manner. Instituting the Social Work Licensure Compact in Maryland is a commonsense measure that will ensure there is a larger pool of available social workers who can work with patients to improve their mental health.

SB 174 would also allow virtual care platforms such as Teladoc Health to better leverage their workforce of licensed social workers across the nation. It remains our goal to provide Maryland residents with safe, effective, and valuable mental health care where and when they need it. The social workers who use the Teladoc Health platform to connect with patients have all met the necessary requirements to be licensed in the states in which they practice. Should this measure be enacted, our platform will be able to leverage our highly qualified provider base to ensure patients have access to timely, meaningful, and affordable mental health care.

Teladoc Health appreciates the opportunity to provide our company's unique perspective on the efficacy of SB 174. Please do not hesitate to contact Teladoc Health's Director of Government Affairs Mercer May at mercer.may@teladochealth.com with any questions you may have.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kevin Harper", written over a light blue horizontal line.

Kevin Harper
Vice President & Head of Government Affairs
Teladoc Health