A BILL ENTITLED

AN ACT concerning

Acupuncture Licensure Requirements

FOR the purpose of altering the education requirements that an applicant for licensure by the State Acupuncture Board must achieve to be issued a license; and generally relating to the State Acupuncture Board.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article – Health Occupations
Section 1A–302
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2021 Replacement Volume)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article – Health Occupations

1A–302.

(a) To qualify for a license, an applicant shall be an individual who meets the requirements of this section.

(b) The application shall:

(1) Be of good moral character;

(2) Be at least 18 years old;

(3) Demonstrate competence in performing acupuncture by meeting one of the following standards for education or training:

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.
[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.
(i) Graduation from at least a master’s level program or its
equivalent in acupuncture that is:

1. Approved by the Maryland Higher Education Commission;
2. Accredited by the Accreditation Commission for
   Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine; or
3. Found by the Board to be equivalent to a course approved
   or accredited under item 1 or 2 of this item; or

(ii) 1. [Achievement] EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN ITEM 2 OF
   THIS ITEM, ACHIEVEMENT of a:

   [1.] A. Diplomate in acupuncture from the National
   Certification Commission for Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine; [or] AND
   [2.] B. Passing score on an examination that is determined
   by the Board to be equivalent to the examination given by the National Certification
   Commission for Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine; OR

2. IF THE APPLICANT IS ISSUED A LICENSE ON OR
   BEFORE MAY 31, 2026, ACHIEVEMENT OF A:

   A. DIPLOMATE IN ACUPUNCTURE FROM THE NATIONAL
      CERTIFICATION COMMISSION FOR ACUPUNCTURE AND ORIENTAL MEDICINE; OR

   B. PASSING SCORE ON AN EXAMINATION THAT IS
      DETERMINED BY THE BOARD TO BE EQUIVALENT TO THE EXAMINATION GIVEN BY
      THE NATIONAL CERTIFICATION COMMISSION FOR ACUPUNCTURE AND ORIENTAL
      MEDICINE;

   (4) Demonstrate the ability to communicate in the English language; and
   (5) Meet any other qualifications that the Board establishes in regulations.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
October 1, 2022.