By: Delegate Ivey
Introduced and read first time: February 7, 2022
Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

A BILL ENTITLED

AN ACT concerning

State Board of Professional Counselors and Therapists – Out-of-State Licensing
Reciprocity – Study

FOR the purpose of requiring the State Board of Professional Counselors and Therapists
to conduct a study and make recommendations on licensure reciprocity for clinical
marriage and family therapists licensed in certain states and jurisdictions; and
generally relating to the licensure of clinical marriage and family therapists.

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
That:

(a) The State Board of Professional Counselors and Therapists shall study and
make recommendations on updating State law granting reciprocity for clinical marriage
and family therapists licensed in the District of Columbia and Virginia to practice in the
State.

(b) In conducting the study and making the recommendations, the Board shall:

(1) review the laws and regulations in the State that authorize clinical
marriage and family therapists licensed in the District of Columbia and Virginia to practice
in the State;

(2) determine the feasibility of establishing an agreement between the
State, the District of Columbia, and Virginia for granting reciprocity for clinical marriage
and family therapists licensed in one of the three jurisdictions to practice in another of the
three jurisdictions that will:

(i) maintain existing licensing requirements within the State;
(ii) authorize clinical marriage and family therapists licensed in the District of Columbia or Virginia to apply for licensure in the State without unnecessary barriers; and

(iii) establish substantively similar requirements for licensure as a clinical marriage and family therapy license in the District of Columbia, Virginia, and the State.

(c) On or before December 1, 2022, the Board shall report its findings and recommendations to the Senate Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee and the House Health and Government Operations Committee, in accordance with § 2–1257 of the State Government Article.

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