

HOUSE BILL 1177

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2lr2491

By: **Delegates McComas, McKay, and Rosenberg**

Introduced and read first time: February 11, 2022

Assigned to: Judiciary

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Courts – Expert Witnesses – Licensed Certified Social Workers–Clinical**

3 FOR the purpose of altering a provision of law authorizing a licensed psychologist to testify
4 as an expert witness on certain issues in a court or administrative hearing to include
5 a licensed certified social worker–clinical; and generally relating to licensed certified
6 social workers–clinical and expert witnesses.

7 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
8 Article – Courts and Judicial Proceedings
9 Section 9–120
10 Annotated Code of Maryland
11 (2020 Replacement Volume and 2021 Supplement)

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

14 **Article – Courts and Judicial Proceedings**

15 9–120.

16 Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a psychologist licensed under the
17 “Maryland Psychologists Act” and qualified as an expert witness **OR A LICENSED**
18 **CERTIFIED SOCIAL WORKER–CLINICAL LICENSED UNDER THE “MARYLAND SOCIAL**
19 **WORKERS PRACTICE ACT” AND QUALIFIED AS AN EXPERT WITNESS** may testify on
20 ultimate issues, including insanity, competency to stand trial, and matters within the scope
21 of that psychologist’s **OR LICENSED CERTIFIED SOCIAL WORKER–CLINICAL’S** special
22 knowledge, in any case in any court or in any administrative hearing.

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

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

