



MARYLAND Department of Health

Larry Hogan, Governor – Boyd K. Rutherford, Lt. Governor – Robert R. Neall, Secretary

Board of Acupuncture

February 4, 2020

The Honorable Shane E. Pendergrass, Chair
Health and Government Operations Committee House
Office Building, Room 241
Annapolis, MD 21401-1991

RE: HB 259 - Health Occupations - Diagnostic Evaluation and Treatment of Patients - Disciplinary Actions - Letter of Information

Dear Chair Pendergrass and Committee Members:

The Maryland Board of Acupuncture is submitting this letter of Information for HB 259 - Health Occupations - Diagnostic Evaluation and Treatment of Patients - Disciplinary Actions.

HB 259, as written, applies to all Health Occupational Boards and respective health care practitioners. The Board of Acupuncture is unclear how the bill would apply to the practice of Acupuncture and East Asian Medicine, as East Asian Medicine, by its nature, is integrative, complementary, alternative and sometimes non-conventional.

We urge the Committee to consider the applicability of this bill in relation to the Acupuncture Board or other alternative health care professions.

If you would like to discuss this matter further, please contact the Board's Executive Director, Penny Heisler, at (410) 764-4766 or penny.heisler@maryland.gov.

Sincerely,

Tom Ingegno, L.Ac. DACM
Chair

The opinion of the Board expressed in this document does not necessarily reflect that of the Department of Health or the Administration.