



Committee: House Health and Government Operations Committee
Bill Number: House Bill 656
Title: Pharmacists – Administration of Self-Administered Medications and Maintenance Injectable Medications
Hearing Date: February 18, 2020
Position: Support

The Maryland Nurses Association (MNA) supports *House Bill 656 – Pharmacists – Administration of Self-Administered Medications and Maintenance Injectable Medications*. The bill authorizes pharmacists to administer maintenance injectable medications upon a prescription by a prescriber. The prescriber would have to administer the first dose of medication.

MNA supports this legislation because we agree that pharmacists have the education and training to administer maintenance injectable medications. The bill has appropriate consumer safe-guards, including requiring the prescriber to administer the first dose in case the patient has an adverse reaction. The bill also requires communication between the pharmacist and prescriber.

MNA recognizes that there are sometimes gaps in care. Prescribers, particularly small providers, may not have the staff or infrastructure to routinely administer injectable medications. Consumers may delay care in their search for a provider to administer their medication. Pharmacists, as they have the appropriate training, can help fill that gap in care.

Thank you for your consideration of our testimony. If you need any additional information, please contact Robyn Elliott at relliott@policypartners.net or (443) 926-3443.