



Board of Physicians

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

2020 SESSION POSITION PAPER

BILL NO: HB 378 – Natalie M. LaPrade Medical Cannabis Commission –
Certifying Providers
COMMITTEE: Health and Government Operations
POSITION: Support With Amendments

TITLE: Natalie M. LaPrade Medical Cannabis Commission – Certifying
Providers

BILL ANALYSIS: HB 378 allows licensed physician assistants operating under an active
delegation agreement with a certifying provider to become a certifying provider.

POSITION AND RATIONALE: The Maryland Board of Physicians (“the Board”) supports
HB 378, but suggests one amendment under §13-3301 of the Health General Article.

The Board suggests amending Page 2, lines 22 and 23 of HB 378 to read: “HAS AN ACTIVE
DELEGATION AGREEMENT WITH A **PRIMARY SUPERVISING PHYSICIAN WHO IS**
A CERTIFYING PROVIDER.”

Rationale: Physician assistants in Maryland operate within a delegation agreement with a
primary supervising physician. This delegation agreement is kept on file with the Board, and the
primary supervising physician and core duties are listed on the Board’s public practitioner
profile. If the primary supervising physician is not present, he or she may designate one or more
alternate supervising physicians to provide supervision in accordance with the delegation
agreement. An alternate supervising physician may not delegate duties to a physician assistant
that are outside the scope of the primary delegation agreement, and alternate supervising
physicians are not listed on the practitioner profile.

The Board believes that this change will provide clarity regarding who may apply as a certifying
provider.

For more information, please contact Wynee Hawk, Manager, Policy and Legislation, Maryland
Board of Physicians, 410-764-3786.

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