

Dear Chairwoman Pendergrass, and Members of Health and Government Operations Committee:

My name is Preeti Raghavan and I am a physician working in Rehabilitation at Johns Hopkins School of Medicine. I have had the opportunity to work alongside board certified music therapists and have been impressed with the clinical impact that music therapy has on the lives of the patients I serve. I am writing in support of [HB1102], to create a Music Therapist Advisory Committee within the State Board of Professional Counselors and Therapists for music therapy licensure in Maryland.

Not only is there research to support the work that music therapists do, there is also much clinical evidence that music therapists can help improve mood, decrease pain, decrease anxiety, improve coping with disease and disability and improve quality of life and well-being.

I believe that the establishment of music therapy licensure in Maryland will help ensure that the patients at Johns Hopkins receive quality music therapy services. There is a significant difference between a board-certified music therapist, with the credential MT-BC, versus an individual claiming to be a “music therapist” who does not have the required training and experience. It is vital to all residents and consumers of healthcare in Maryland that this level of quality be assured through the creation of music therapy licensure.

Please support efforts to establish a Music Therapist Advisory Committee within the State Board of Professional Counselors and Therapists for music therapy licensure by voting “yes” for [HB1102].

Sincerely,  
Preeti

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