



# Board of Nursing

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

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March 4, 2020

The Honorable Luke Clippinger  
Chair, Judiciary Committee  
Room 101, House Office Building  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

**RE: HB1502 – Handgun Permits – Qualifications – High Risk Occupations – Letter of Information with Amendments**

Dear Chair Clippinger:

The Maryland Board of Nursing (“the Board”) is submitting this letter of information with amendments for HB1502 – Handgun Permits – Qualifications – High Risk Occupations. This bill requires the Secretary of State Police to issue a permit to carry, wear, or transport a handgun to persons employed as nurses and nurse practitioners.

Nurses and nurse practitioners licensed by the Board must maintain an active license in good standing in order to be employed as a nurse or nurse practitioner. A registered nurse or licensed practical nurse is required to meet all renewal requirements under 10.27.01.13, Code of Maryland Regulations (COMAR). A registered nurse or licensed practical nurse shall renew biannually not later than the 28<sup>th</sup> day of the licensee’s birth month (COMAR 10.27.01.13). An individual applying for active licensure renewal shall show evidence of 1,000 hours of active nursing practice or graduation from an approved nursing program within 5 years immediately preceding the date of the renewal application. (COMAR 10.27.01.13G).

Registered Nurses and Licensed Practical Nurses may choose the option of completing thirty (30) Continuing Education Units (CEUs) to satisfy the requirements for license renewal, 10.27.01.13G(1). An individual applying for active licensure renewal who does not meet the requirements of §G shall be required to successfully complete a Board-approved refresher program or Board-approved preceptorship program prior to renewal of the license. Practicing registered nursing or licensed practical nursing on an expired license is prohibited and subject to discipline under Health Occupations Article, §8-316(a), Annotated Code of Maryland.

A nurse practitioner must meet all of the requirements under COMAR 10.27.07.04. A certification as a nurse practitioner expires at the same time as the nurse practitioner’s registered nursing license, 10.27.07.04A. The certified nurse practitioner shall ensure that the Board has a record of each renewed national certification if any national certification expires before the registered nurse license renewal date, 10.27.07.04D. Practicing on an expired national

certification is prohibited and subject to discipline under Health Occupations Article, §8-316(a), Annotated Code of Maryland.

The Board proposes the following amendments to HB1502:

On page 3, line 7 after “**NURSE**” insert “**WITH AN ACTIVE LICENSE IN GOOD STANDING**”;

On page 3, line 8 after “**PRACTITIONER**” insert “**WITH AN ACTIVE LICENSE IN GOOD STANDING**”.

For the reasons discussed above, the Board of Nursing submits this letter of information with amendments for HB1502.

For more information, please contact Rhonda Scott, Deputy Director, at (410) – 585 – 1953 ([rhonda.scott2@maryland.gov](mailto:rhonda.scott2@maryland.gov)) or Karen E. B. Evans, Executive Director, at (410) – 585 – 1914 ([karene.evans@maryland.gov](mailto:karene.evans@maryland.gov)).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'G. Hicks', written over a horizontal line.

Gary N. Hicks  
Board President

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