



Board of Physicians

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

2020 SESSION POSITION PAPER

BILL NO.: HB 497
COMMITTEE: House Ways and Means
POSITION: Support with Amendments

TITLE: Education – School Physical Examinations – Physician Assistant

BILL ANALYSIS: HB 497 adds “physician assistant” to the types of health care practitioners permitted to complete a physical examination of a student entering the Maryland Public School System.

POSITION & RATIONALE: The Maryland Board of Physicians (the Board) supports HB 497 but suggests two revisions under §7-402(c) of the Education Article, Annotated Code of Maryland.

The Board suggests that “a physician” be changed to “a LICENSED physician” on Page 2, Line 3 of the bill.

In addition, the Board suggests that “A LICENSED PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT” be revised to “A LICENSED PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT WITH A DELEGATION AGREEMENT APPROVED BY THE STATE BOARD OF PHYSICIANS.” *See Page 2, Line 4.*

Physician assistants in Maryland are not independent practitioners; they work under the supervision of licensed physicians in accordance with a delegation agreement that is approved by and maintained on file with the Board. The Board believes the changes suggested above will provide clarity regarding the types of health care practitioners permitted to complete the physical examinations addressed in the bill and will be consistent with language in Title 14 and Title 15 of the Health Occupations Article, Annotated Code of Maryland.

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.