



6811 Campfield Road
Baltimore, MD 21207

TO: The Honorable Paul Pinsky
Chairman, Finance Committee

FROM: LeadingAge Maryland

SUBJECT: Senate Bill 13, Certified Nursing Assistants – Certificate Renewal – Training Program Requirements

DATE: January 26, 2021

POSITION: Favorable

LeadingAge Maryland supports Senate Bill 13, Certified Nursing Assistants – Certificate Renewal – Training Program Requirements.

LeadingAge Maryland is a community of not-for-profit aging services organizations serving residents and clients through continuing care retirement communities, affordable senior housing, assisted living, nursing homes and home and community-based services. We represent more than 120 not-for-profit organizations, including the vast majority of CCRCs in Maryland. Our mission is to expand the world of possibilities for aging in Maryland. We partner with consumers, caregivers, researchers, faith communities and others who care about aging in Maryland.

Under Senate Bill 13, the State Board of Nursing must adopt regulations to specify the circumstances under which a nursing assistant, as a condition of renewal, is required to complete either an approved nursing assistant training program or an approved nursing assistant refresher training program and the number of didactic instruction hours and clinical training hours the nursing assistant training program or nursing assistant refresher training program must have to be approved.

Hiring a nursing assistant can take 80+ days – plus orientation and community training. Eliminating barriers to license renewal is critical, especially when an applicant is unable to renew based on community or personal situations connected to an outbreak, natural disaster or

access to resources/class/work. In certain situations, renewal of a license can take too long and be at the mercy of the renewal board and the ability to connect/respond.

LeadingAge Maryland supports this bill in an effort to allow qualified certified nurse assistants to continue to support healthcare needs while actively trying to renew their license.

For these reasons, LeadingAge Maryland respectfully requests a favorable report for Senate Bill 13.

For additional information, please contact Aaron J. Greenfield, 410.446.1992