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Testimony in Support of
Senate Bill 0013 – Certified Nursing Assistants – Certificate Renewal – Training Program Requirements
Before Education, Health and Environmental Affairs Committee
January 21, 2021

The Rural Maryland Council **supports** Senate Bill 0013 - Certified Nursing Assistants – Certificate Renewal – Training Program Requirements. The purpose of this bill is to allow for Certified Nursing Assistants to renew their certification more easily by providing certain evidence of completion of a nursing assistant training program or a refresher training program if the nursing assistant did not complete 16 hours of required active practice. The State Board of Nursing will develop the programs and be responsible to adopt certain regulations.

Rural Maryland currently experiences a shortage of health care providers particularly in specialty areas, mental health and dental care. Moreover, rural populations are also overall older and in worst health than their suburban counterparts. RMC supports efforts to streamline processes in order to get more health care providers out into our rural communities.

The Council respectfully requests your favorable support of SB0013.

The Rural Maryland Council (RMC) is an independent state agency governed by a nonpartisan, 40-member board that consists of inclusive representation from the federal, state, regional, county, and municipal governments, as well as the for-profit and nonprofit sectors. We bring together federal, state, county, and municipal government officials as well as representatives of the for-profit and nonprofit sectors to identify challenges unique to rural communities and to craft public policy, programmatic or regulatory solutions.

“A Collective Voice for Rural Maryland”