



*Larry Hogan, Governor · Boyd K. Rutherford, Lt. Governor · Dennis R. Schrader, Acting Secretary*

**Maryland Board of  
Acupuncture  
4201 Patterson Avenue  
Baltimore, MD 21215  
Phone: 410-764-4766**

February 2, 2021

The Honorable Delores Kelley  
Chair, Finance Committee  
3 East Miller Senate Office Building  
11 Bladen Street  
Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: SB 5 – Implicit Bias Training and the Office of Minority Health and Health Disparities – Letter of Support

Dear Chair Kelley and Committee Members:

The Maryland Board of Acupuncture is submitting this letter of support for Senate Bill 5 (SB 5), Implicit Bias Training and the Office of Minority Health and Health Disparities.

As you know, SB 5 will require that all licensed health care practitioners in Maryland, complete an implicit bias training course as a basis for their first renewal after October 1, 2021. The Board believes this training is necessary in today's climate and will be a good first step for the health boards to assist in bringing awareness to unconscious discrimination and improve practitioners' attitudes toward minority groups. The Board believes it is important to educate licensees on potential biases and provide strategies they can apply in their daily lives. The Board looks forward to the implementation of implicit bias training for our licensees.

Thank you for your consideration of this information. If you have questions or need more information, please do not hesitate to contact me at 410-764-4766 or [penny.heisler@maryland.gov](mailto:penny.heisler@maryland.gov).  
Sincerely,

*Penny Heisler*

Penny Heisler  
Executive Director

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