



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

**Maryland Board of Examiners for Audiologists,
Hearing Aid Dispensers & Speech-Language
Pathologists**
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Baltimore, MD 21215
Phone: 410-764-4723

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 Audiologists, Hearing Aid Dispensers and Speech-Language Pathologists (the “Board”) 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 are aware, 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 a critical area of education that should be required of our licensees, to address any such potential discrimination towards minority groups, both inside and outside of clinical practice. The Board is very much in favor of such training counting toward the total continuing education (CEU) that is already in place as part of their renewal requirements, and believes that this training will be accessible via the professional organizations from which our licensees currently obtain CEUs through. The Board looks forward to the critical implementation of implicit bias training for all of the licensees we regulate.

Thank you for your consideration of this information. If you have questions or need more information, please do not hesitate to contact me at 443-915-7981 or candace.robinson@maryland.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Candace G. Robinson, Au.D.".

Candace G. Robinson, Au.D.
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.