



Committee: House Health and Government Operations Committee
Bill Number: Senate Bill 466
Title: Mental Health – Assent to and Certificates for Admission – Licensed Certified Social Worker-Clinical and Licensed Clinical Professional Counselor
Hearing Date: March 23, 2021
Position: Support

The Licensed Clinical Professional Counselors of Maryland (LCPCM) supports *Senate Bill 466 – Mental Health – Assent to and Certificates for Admission – Licensed Certified Social Worker-Clinical and Licensed Clinical Professional Counselor*. This bill would permit licensed clinical social workers – clinical (LCSW-C) and Licensed Clinical Professional Counselors (LCPC) to provide the second certification for the assent of a minor and an involuntary admission for an adult.

There are over 4,000 licensed clinical professional counselors (LCPCs) in the state. Within our scope of practice, LCPCs diagnose and treat mental health conditions, serving children and adults in all practice settings. As a significant sector of the behavioral health workforce, we can provide a vital function in expediting the process of providing the second certification, including conducting the necessary examination and diagnosis required under § 10-616 of the Health-General Article.

Thank you for your consideration of our testimony, and we urge a favorable vote. If we can provide any further information, please contact Rachael faulkner at rfaulkner@policypartners.net or 410-693-4000.