

Committee: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee

Bill Number: Senate Bill 84

Title: Pharmacists – Administration of Self-Administered Medications and

Maintenance Injectable Medications

Hearing Date: January 26, 2021

Position: Support

The Maryland Affiliate of the American College of Nurse Midwives (ACNM) supports Senate Bill 84 – Pharmacists – Administration of Self-Administered Medications and Maintenance Injectable Medications. Under the bill, pharmacists may administer injectable maintenance medications as authorized by a patient's provider. A pharmacist will not administer the first dose except when specifically authorized by the prescriber.

ACNM supports this bill because it improves access to needed medications for our patients. For example, a CNM could prescribe Depo Provera (an injectable form of contraception); after the first dose, the patient could obtain the medication from their local pharmacy. For our patients who face scheduling and transportation challenges, this arrangement could improve their ability to obtain their medication regulatory, and thus, it would reduce the risk of unplanned pregnancies.

ACNM also appreciates the bill's provisions regarding communications between the pharmacist, prescriber, and patient. Communication is essential to ensuring a patient's health care needs are addressed.

Thank you for your consideration of our testimony. If you need any additional information, please contact Robyn Elliott at relliott@policypartners.net or (443) 926-3443.