



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

Board of Acupuncture

4140 Patterson Avenue
Baltimore, MD 21215

January 26, 2021

The Honorable Shane E. Pendergrass
Chair, Health and Government Operations Committee
121 House Office Bldg.
Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: HB 28 – Implicit Bias Training and the Office of Minority Health and Health Disparities – Letter of Support

Dear Chair Pendergrass and Committee members:

The Maryland Board of Acupuncture is submitting this letter of support for HB 28, Implicit Bias Training and the Office of Minority Health and Health Disparities.

As you know, HB 28 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 working with the Office of Minority Health and Health Disparities on this very important project.

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.

Sincerely,

Penny Heisler
Executive Director

cc: Delegate Joseline A. Pena Melnyk
Delegate Robbyn T. Lewis