

February 4, 2022

Senator Adelaide Eckardt James Senate Office Building, Room 322 11 Bladen St., Annapolis, MD 21401

To Senator Eckardt:

On behalf of the Maryland Organization of Nurse Leaders (MONL) we are writing in support and are favorable of Maryland Senate Bill 154, Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN) Compact. The Compact increases the APRN license portability and benefits the State of Maryland by improving access to healthcare and continuity of care for patients. This issue has been a top priority for many years, but since the COVID-19 pandemic started, this issue has intensified due to the sheer volume of patients needing a high level of care and the ongoing challenges with a sustainable healthcare workforce. SB 154 will foster enhanced collaboration between state Boards of Nursing and standardization of licensure requirements. The Compact will both sustain the state-based licensure system and increase communication between states.

MONL is comprised of Nurse Leaders from a variety of healthcare settings, including acute care, post-acute care, and academia. MONL's mission of providing direction to the environment that shapes health care delivery in the state of Maryland, has had a positive impact in Maryland for many years. Maryland was the first state to join the National Nurse Licensure Compact for Registered Nurses in 1999, and now must be a leader in the adoption of the APRN Compact.

The Maryland Organization of Nurse Leaders urges legislative leaders to Support SB 154. MONL represents Maryland's Nurse Leaders and nursing constituents across the state, we are confident you will represent on our behalf at this vital time in healthcare, two years into an international pandemic. Thank you for your time, attention, and support.

Sincerely,

Cody Legler, DNP, APRN, President MONL

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