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Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of the Mid-Atlantic States, Inc 2101 East Jefferson Street Rockville, Maryland 20852

February 10, 2022

The Honorable Paul G. Pinsky Senate Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee 2 West, Miller Senate Office Building 11 Bladen Street Annapolis, Maryland 21401

RE: SB 154 – Support

Dear Chair Pinsky and Members of the Committee:

Kaiser Permanente is pleased to support SB 154, "Advanced Practice Registered Nurse Compact."

Kaiser Permanente is the largest private integrated health care delivery system in the United States, delivering health care to over 12 million members in eight states and the District of Columbia.¹ Kaiser Permanente of the Mid-Atlantic States, which operates in Maryland, provides and coordinates complete health care services for approximately 800,000 members. In Maryland, we deliver care to over 460,000 members.

The APRN Compact, developed by state nursing boards in 2020, allows an advanced practice registered nurse to hold one multistate license with a privilege to practice in other compact states. The APRN Compact will be implemented when 7 states have enacted the legislation. North Dakota and Delaware have already enacted APRN Compact legislation, and legislation is currently pending in Maryland and Utah.

Kaiser Permanente employs advance practice registered nurses in Maryland, DC, and northern Virginia, and we require these nurses to be licensed in all three jurisdictions. The Compact offers a mechanism to streamline the licensure process, allowing our health system to operate more efficiently for our Maryland members. As health systems increasingly offer telehealth to augment other health services, a simplified process for advanced practice registered nurses to be licensed in multiple states has become more relevant and beneficial. For these reasons, we urge a favorable report for SB 154.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. Please feel free to contact me at <u>Allison.W.Taylor@kp.org</u> or (202) 924-7496 with questions.

¹ Kaiser Permanente comprises Kaiser Foundation Health Plan, Inc., the nation's largest not-for-profit health plan, and its health plan subsidiaries outside California and Hawaii; the not-for-profit Kaiser Foundation Hospitals, which operates 39 hospitals and over 650 other clinical facilities; and the Permanente Medical Groups, self-governed physician group practices that exclusively contract with Kaiser Foundation Health Plan and its health plan subsidiaries to meet the health needs of Kaiser Permanente's members.

Kaiser Permanente Comments on SB 154 February 10, 2022

Sincerely, allien Taylor

Allison Taylor Director of Government Relations Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Mid-Atlantic States, Inc.