



A Voice for Advanced Practice Clinicians in Maryland



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Support SB 154 Advanced Practice Registered Nurse Compact

February 10, 2022

We support passage of Senator Eckardt SB 154 Advanced Practice Registered Nurse Compact.

The Compact benefits the public by improving continuity of care, increasing license portability for advanced practice registered nurses and increasing access to APRN care. Now more than ever, this issue is of utmost importance. Access to healthcare providers was a challenge prior to the Covid-19 pandemic but has now been magnified due to the high level of care required by community members.

SB 154 will enable better communication between state Boards of Nursing while also ensuring licensure requirements are standardized.

The APRN Compact will allow APRNs to apply for a multi-state license, which improves access to care, while also coordinating the exchange of information from state to state.

The adoption of the APRN compact will not only improve the Advance Practice Nurse's ability to practice across state lines but will enhance the protection of the public by establishing a comprehensive licensure information system.

In adopting the Compact, the state-based licensure system is preserved but communication between states is enhanced.

As a leader for APRNs in Maryland. MAAPC has a mission to provide direction and leadership for the advancement of nursing practice and excellent patient care in organized healthcare systems. Support for SB 154 not only advances the ability of APRNs to provide care in a regulated manner across state lines but would also extend nursing's ability to provide patient care in underserved areas. As Maryland was an early adopter of the Nurse Licensure Compact for Registered Nurses, it is now imperative that Maryland is on the forefront of the APRN Licensure Compact, which was adopted by the National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN) on August 12, 2020. Maryland could be and should be one of the first 7 states to pass legislation which enacts this national compact.

We at MAAPC encourage a favorable report on SB 154. As our organization represents Maryland's advanced practice nurses, we are confident that you will act on our behalf and represent the dominant perspective of our profession at this crucial moment in healthcare. Thank you for your time and attention.

Sincerely,
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