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Budget and Taxation Committee

Health and Human Services
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Joint Committees
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Fair Practices and
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Testimony for Senate Bill 154
Advanced Practice Registered Nurse Compact
Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs
February 10, 2022

Chairman Pinsky and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to present **Senate Bill 154 – Advanced Practice Registered Nurse Compact**.

The Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN) Compact authorizes advanced practice registered nurses to hold one state license with a privilege to practice in other compact states. The APRN Compact is modeled after the Nurse Licensure Compact, of which Maryland has been a member of for nearly 20 years and has proven to be a successful model for licensure mobility, and the APRN Consensus Model, the national model for APRN regulation and practice.

Senate Bill 154 establishes the framework for Maryland to join the APRN Compact, and would authorize an advanced practice registered nurse to practice in a party state under certain scope of practice rules.

Along with these rules, there are also additional pieces of criteria that an APRN must meet in order to qualify for participation in this compact. This criteria is also in addition to the criteria already established by the state of residence of the APRN.

Ultimately, joining the APRN Compact improves access to healthcare, especially in rural and underserved communities by increasing access to health care in a timely manner, flexibility, and the professional nursing of direct caregivers especially in long term care. Thank you for your consideration and I respectfully ask for a favorable report of Senate Bill 154.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Addie C. Eckardt".

Senator Addie C. Eckardt