



# Board of Nursing

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

March 2, 2022

The Honorable Vanessa E. Atterbeary  
Chair, Ways and Means Committee  
Room 131 House Office Building  
Annapolis, MD 21401-1991

**RE: HB 978 – Income Tax – Caregiver Tax Credit – Letter of Support**

Dear Chair Atterbeary and Committee Members:

The Maryland Board of Nursing (the Board) respectfully submits this letter of support for House Bill (HB) 978 – Income Tax – Caregiver Tax Credit. This bill allows caregivers to claim a credit against the State income tax for qualifying expenses paid or incurred during a taxable year to provide certain goods, services, or support to family members with long-term care needs.

HB 978 would authorize Registered Nurse Practitioners (CRNPs) to certify individuals with long-term healthcare needs. CRNPs are advanced practice registered nurses who can order, perform, and interpret diagnostic tests; diagnose and treat acute and chronic conditions; dispense and prescribe medications or devices; and provide counseling on disease prevention and health promotion. CRNPs must complete a master's or doctoral degree program and have advanced clinical training beyond their initial registered nurse preparation.

The Board strongly believes CRNPs are equipped to diagnose and certify individuals with long-term healthcare needs. CRNPs are expert health care providers that undergo rigorous national certification, periodic peer review, and clinical outcome evaluations. They have the expertise, education, and training to provide services and treat patients in the long-term healthcare setting.

For the reasons discussed above, the Board of Nursing respectfully submits this letter of support for HB 978.

I hope this information is useful. For more information, please contact Iman Farid, Health Policy Analyst, at (410) 585 – 1536 ([iman.farid@maryland.gov](mailto:iman.farid@maryland.gov)) or Rhonda Scott, Deputy Director, at (410) 585 – 1953 ([rhonda.scott2@maryland.gov](mailto:rhonda.scott2@maryland.gov)).

Sincerely,

Gary N. Hicks  
Board President

**The opinion of the Board expressed in this document does not necessarily reflect that of the Department of Health or the Administration.**