



# Board of Nursing

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

March 24, 2022

The Honorable Shane E. Pendergrass  
Chair, House Health and Government Operations Committee  
Room 241 House Office Building  
Annapolis, MD 21401-1991

**RE: SB 230 – Health Occupations – Service Members, Veterans, and Military Spouses –  
Temporary Licensure, Certification, Registration, and Permitting – Letter of Support with  
Amendments**

Dear Chair Pendergrass and Committee Members:

The Maryland Board of Nursing (the Board) respectfully submits this letter of support with amendments for Senate Bill (SB) 230 – Health Occupations – Service Members, Veterans, and Military Spouses – Temporary Licensure, Certification, Registration, and Permitting. This bill requires each health occupations board to issue an expedited temporary license, certificate, registration, or permit to a service member, veteran, or military spouse who meets certain requirements; requires each health occupations board to include a check-off box prominently on a license, certificate, or registration application form; and requires the Maryland Department of Health to publish certain information prominently on its website.

The Veterans Full Employment Act of 2013 requires the Board to expedite the licensure and certification process for military affiliated applicants. The Board, upon verifying the completion of requirements, may issue a temporary license or certificate for a period of 90 days. If an applicant is unable to meet certain statutory requirements, the temporary license or certificate can be extended by the Executive Director for an additional 90 days.

The Board believes this bill acts to supplement the Veterans Full Employment Act of 2013. The most notable changes for the Board include the (1) issuance of an expedited temporary license or certificate for a period of six (6) months; (2) verification of military and/or marriage documents; and (3) the development of a check-box to notify the Board of an applicant's military affiliation. The Board may additionally be provided more flexibility by applying to the Secretary to approve an alternative process for issuing expedited temporary licenses or certificates, so long as it fulfills the provisions of SB 230.

The Board respectfully submits the following amendment to provide clarity when a temporary license or certificate is denied. A notice to deny is issued when the Board determines, through a positive criminal history record check, that an applicant has a history of a previous disciplinary action against their license or an unrelated criminal conviction that resulted in a penalty. It would

be inappropriate for the Board to issue a notice of denial to applicants who have not received a positive criminal history record check.

Section 1-702.1. On page 3. Lines 14 and After. Add (III)

(I) 6 MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF ISSUANCE; ~~OR~~

(II) THE DATE ON WHICH A LICENSE, CERTIFICATE, REGISTRATION, OR PERMIT IS GRANTED OR A NOTICE TO DENY A LICENSE, CERTIFICATE, REGISTRATION, OR PERMIT IS ISSUED BY THE HEALTH OCCUPATIONS BOARD; ~~OR~~

**(III) THE DATE UPON WHICH A HEALTH OCCUPATIONS BOARD DETERMINES THAT A SERVICE MEMBER, VETERAN, OR MILITARY SPOUSE DOES NOT MEET THE MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS FOR LICENSURE.**

For the reasons discussed above, the Board of Nursing respectfully submits this letter of support with amendments for SB 230.

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.**