



Board of Physicians

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

Damean W.E. Freas Board Chair – Christine Farrelly, Executive Director

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2022 SESSION POSITION PAPER

BILL NO.: HB 180 – Interstate Medical Licensure Compact – Sunset Extension and Reporting
COMMITTEE: Health and Government Operations
POSITION: Letter of Support

TITLE: Interstate Medical Licensure Compact – Sunset Extension and Reporting

BILL ANALYSIS: The bill extends the termination date of Maryland's membership in the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact (IMLC). The bill also requires the Maryland Board of Physicians to submit, in its annual report due in 2023, an update on the status of the IMLC.

POSITION AND RATIONALE:

The Maryland Board of Physicians (the Board) supports House Bill (HB) 180. The IMLC pathway has benefitted both Maryland patients by allowing an expedited path to licensure in Maryland for out-of-state physicians and also has benefitted Maryland-licensed physicians seeking licensure in other states. Since joining the IMLC, the Board has issued nearly 700 licenses via the IMLC and has issued a Letter of Qualification for more than 400 Maryland physicians (since July 1, 2019).

This licensure pathway is one of several options the Board offers for out-of-state physicians seeking Maryland licensure. For example, the Board also offers licensure through reciprocity and is currently working on expediting licensure through licensure by endorsement. In addition, the Board has implemented an online application for physicians and the Uniform Application, and the Board accepts credentials through the Federation Credentialing Verification Service (FCVS).

The Board wishes to offer one amendment by changing the effective period from 3 years and 3 months to 11 years (instead of the currently proposed 8 years and 3 months). *See Page 1, Line 14.* The end date for IMLC membership would change from September 30, 2022 to July 1, 2030 (rather than the currently proposed September 30, 2027). *See Page 1, Line 15.* Revising the end date to July 1, 2030 will align with the timing of the Board's next sunset review, allowing the legislature to consider the IMLC together with the Board's other efforts to expedite

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licensure. This approach will provide a more holistic view for the legislature in considering the Board's licensing processes and what changes, if any, are appropriate at that time.

Therefore, the Board requests that the committee vote HB 180 as favorable with the date revision.

For more information, contact Matthew Dudzic, Health Policy Analyst, Maryland Board of Physicians, 410-764-5042.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Damean W. E. Freas".

Damean W. E. Freas, D.O.
Chair, Maryland Board of Physicians