



Board of Nursing

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

February 16, 2022

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

RE: HB 623 – Income Tax – Subtraction Modification – Essential Healthcare Workers – 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) 623 – Income Tax – Subtraction Modification – Essential Healthcare Workers. The bill allows a subtraction modification of \$2,000 under the Maryland income tax for a certain amount for certain taxable years if an individual is a certain essential healthcare worker.

The bill currently defines an essential healthcare worker to include a licensed practical nurse and registered nurse. The Board is in favor of nurses receiving a tax modification for their hard work and sacrifice during and in the midst of the pandemic. Maryland has encountered many turbulent changes and has been greatly impacted within the last few years. Our nurses have adapted and persistently worked to overcome barriers to provide high quality care to patients across all fields of specialty and with varying health complexities. As the pandemic continues, the Board believes it is imperative to incentivize and reward our essential healthcare workers so they are both drawn to the field and remain in practice long after the pandemic ends.

For the reasons discussed above, the Board of Nursing respectfully submits this letter of support for HB 623.

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gary N. Hicks".

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.