



*Keeping You Connected...Expanding Your Potential...
In Senior Care and Services*

TO: The Honorable Shane E. Pendergrass, Chair
Members, House Health and Government Operations Committee
The Honorable Ariana B. Kelly

FROM: Danna L. Kauffman
Pamela Metz Kasemeyer

DATE: March 3, 2022

RE: **SUPPORT** – House Bill 1241 – *Health Occupations – Nursing Home Administrator – Qualifications*

On behalf of the LifeSpan Network, the largest and most diverse senior care provider association in Maryland representing nursing facilities, assisted living providers, continuing care retirement communities, medical adult day care centers, senior housing communities and other home and community-based services, we **support** House Bill 1241.

This bill authorizes an individual who holds an active nursing home administrator license in good standing in another state to practice in Maryland if the individual has three years' experience as a nursing home administrator or six years as an assistant nursing home administrator. The bill also states that a new licensure applicant must have completed a full-time administrator in training program for a period of 9 months, or a full time administrator in training program for 6 months if the applicant: holds a bachelor's degree in healthcare administration and completed an internship in a nursing home or assisted living program; or holds an active certification issued by the state board of nursing and has at least 10 years of experience at a nursing home or has at least 3 years of experience as a director of nursing.

Maryland must ensure that we have a robust workforce in senior care. Nursing home administrators are part of this workforce. Maryland's nursing home administrator licensure requirements are among the most stringent in the country. This bill would bring licensure requirements more in line with other states in our region, while still requiring education, training, and experience that prepares nursing home administrators for the complex role of administration in long-term care settings. By reducing the number of months required for an administrator in training program dependent on an applicant's existing experience and education, this bill also seeks to make licensure more attainable for nurses, directors of nursing, and healthcare administration graduates. For these reasons, LifeSpan urges a favorable vote.

For more information call:

Danna L. Kauffman
Pamela Metz Kasemeyer
410-244-7000