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Committee: House Health and Government Operations Committee

Bill Number: HB 1208 - Health Occupations - Health Care Workforce Expansion

Hearing Date: March 3, 2022

Position: Support

The Maryland Dental Action Coalition (MDAC) supports *House Bill 1208 – Health Occupations – Health Care Workforce Expansion*. The bill provides for support of expanding the nursing workforce. The bill also directs the Maryland Department of Health, in conjunction with the Department of Labor, to study the use of apprenticeship programs to expand the health care workforce. The study may focus on professions that are not licensed under the health occupations board. MDAC believes that the study may help plan the expansion of the number of community health workers (CHWs) and deepen their training in specific areas, such as oral health. CHWs play an important role in ensuring individuals in underserved communities can access health care and social services.

We ask for a favorable report on this legislation. If we can provide additional information, please contact Robyn Elliott at relliott@policypartners.net.

Optimal Oral Health for All Marylanders