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SB 674 – Physician Assistants – Parity with Other Health Care Practitioners (Physician Assistant Parity Act of 2023)

Support Testimony Flavius Lilly, PhD, MA, MPH
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The University of Maryland Baltimore is the state's health and law graduate campus, producing the majority of health professionals for the state. Since 2014 UMB has been actively engaged in educating PAs and I can speak personally to the quality of their education and clinical experience.

As Vice Dean, I am closely involved with clinical site procurement and oversight as well as programmatic review and evaluation. I can attest that consistently our program outcomes on National Certifying exams exceed the national average, our graduates serve side by side with our physicians and nurses on the frontlines across medical specialties.

Increasingly our graduates who predominantly are from Maryland, and wish to seek employment in Maryland, are burdened by antiquated practice regulations and laws which delay and prohibit their practice and utilization, despite their rigorous education and experience. The proposed legislation does not change the scope of practice of PAs, rather it removes administrative barriers that are currently delaying the hiring and optimal utilization of these frontline healthcare providers. PAs are educated to practice on teams, in collaboration with Physicians and other healthcare team members to provide patient centric, quality care. I ask that you support and enact this legislation on behalf of our patients, communities, and state.

Thank you,

Flavius R. W. Lilly, PhD, MA, MPH