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March 3, 2023

The Honorable Melony Griffith, Chairman  
Finance Committee  
131 House Office Building  
3 East  
Miller Senate Office Building  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

**Re: (FWA) Testimony in Support of Senate Bill 728 “State Board of Examiners in Optometry – Sunset Extension”**

Dear Chairman & Members of the Committee:

The Maryland Optometric Association (MOA) is a 501 (c) 6 non-profit trade association representing hundreds of member optometrists throughout the State. We are committed to empowering Maryland optometry and advancing optometric care for all Maryland patients.

MOA submits this **Favorable With Amendment** (“FWA”) testimony in support of **Senate Bill 728** entitled, **“State Board of Examiners in Optometry – Sunset Extension”** (“SB 728”). As drafted, SB 728 would extend the statutory and regulatory authority of the State Board of Examiners in Optometry (“State Board”) for only a 3-year period. The State Board amendment changes the reestablishment time period to 10 years in accordance with the Maryland Program Evaluation Act § 8-409 (a) (1) which states, “The reestablishment of a governmental activity or unit designated for evaluation under § 8-403 of this subtitle is for a 10-year period unless the law that provides for reestablishment sets another period.”

The Maryland Optometric Association urges this Committee to adopt the State Board amendment and vote favorably on Senate Bill 728.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Whitney Fahrman, O.D.' The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a vertical line that separates it from the typed name below.

Whitney Fahrman, O.D.  
MOA President