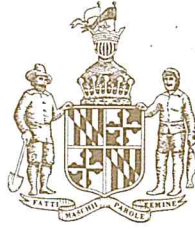


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THE SENATE OF MARYLAND
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TESTIMONY - SENATE BILL 78

***HEALTH OCCUPATIONS – SERVICE MEMBERS, VETERANS,
AND MILITARY SPOUSES – TEMPORARY LICENSURE,
CERTIFICATION, REGISTRATION, AND PERMITTING***

FINANCE COMMITTEE

JANUARY 31, 2023

Chair Griffith, Vice Chair Klausmeier, and Committee Members:

Senate Bill 78 is a straight-forward piece of legislation designed to get qualified individuals to work as quickly as possible in healthcare professions and to help our military community at the same time.

This bill would require each Maryland health occupations board to create an expedited temporary license, certificate, registration or permit for service members, their spouses and veterans who hold similar certifications in other states and who are going through the full application process for said positions in Maryland. This legislation would be applicable in numerous fields and help fill needs in a wide variety of critical healthcare professions including acupuncture, audiology, dentistry, nursing, optometry, pharmacy, physical therapy, psychology, general medicine, and social work.

The aim of this legislation is to create a mutually beneficial situation for both the State and for the military community whose service has brought them to Maryland.

For the reasons listed above, I ask for a favorable report of Senate Bill 78.