

## **Board of Dietetic Practice**

Wes Moore, Governor · Aruna Miller, Lt. Governor · Laura Herrera Scott, M.D., M.P.H., Acting Secretary

Rebecca J. Snow, MS, CNS, LDN, – Marie Savage, Executive Director 4201 Patterson Avenue, Suite 318 Baltimore MD 21215 Phone: 410-764-4788

January 31, 2023

The Honorable Melony Griffith Chair, Senate Finance Committee 3 East Miller Senate Office Building Annapolis, MD 21401-1991

## **RE: SB 78– Health Occupations – Service Members, Veterans, and Military Spouses – Temporary** Licensure, Certification, Registration, and Permitting – Letter of Information

Dear Chair Griffith and Committee Members:

The Board of Dietetic Practice (the Board) is submitting this letter of information for Senate Bill (SB) 78 – Health Occupations – Service Members, Veterans, and Military Spouses – Temporary Licensure, Certification, Registration, and Permitting.

The Board currently expedites all applications for service members, veterans, and military spouses. The Board has a paperless licensing system, and the online applications have a check-off box for service members, veterans, and military spouses. Completed applications by service members, veterans and military spouses are top priority and are processed immediately.

The Board receives approximately 300 applications for initial licensure per year. The Board receives maybe one or two applications per year from service members, veterans, or military spouses. The normal processing time for completed applications for the Board is up to 5 business days. A temporary license is not needed for the Board of Dietetic Practice, since the Board already expedites all applications for service members, veterans, and military spouses.

While we agree with the spirit and intent of SB 78, we believe that our current processes of expediting applications are more in line with serving the special circumstances of service members, veterans, and military spouses. Whereas, the process of providing temporary licenses to this group would inadvertently create a longer lead time to licensure and cause additional paperwork.

I hope this information is useful. If you would like to discuss this further, please contact me at 410-764-4741 or **marie.savage@maryland.gov**.

Sincerely,

Marie M. Savage

Marie M. Savage Executive Director Board of Dietetic Practice

The opinion of the Board expressed in this letter of information does not necessarily reflect that of the Department of Health or the Administration.