

Senate Finance Committee

Bill: House Bill 0026 - Health Occupations - Psychologists - Licensure Qualifications

Position: Support

Hearing Date: March 22, 2023

Dear Chair, Vice-chair, and members of the committee:

I am writing this letter to ask you to **SUPPORT House Bill 0026 - Health Occupations - Psychologists - Licensure Qualifications**. I am enrolled in a respecialization program that will meet the licensure requirements if this bill passes and becomes a statute. I completed a Ph.D. in Developmental Psychology at Howard University in 2001. I recently enrolled in a respecialization program and was unaware that it could no longer meet the requirements for licensure in Maryland until late last year. I know that respecialization programs meet licensure requirements in many other states, such as Virginia, and are accepted by the Veterans Administration, government employment, the military, and Defense Department.

I want to switch my field of practice to clinical psychology and practice in Maryland as a Licensed Psychologist because I want to provide psychodiagnostic assessment for children and therapeutic support to their families. I specifically would like to serve underserved populations in my state, Maryland.

For these reasons, I ask the committee to **favorably report on House Bill 0026 - Health Occupations - Psychologists - Licensure Qualifications**.

Sincerely,

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