

NICHOLAUS R. KIPKE  
Legislative District 31  
Anne Arundel County

Health and Government  
Operations Committee

*Subcommittees*

Government Operations and  
Health Facilities

Insurance and Pharmaceuticals

Rules and Executive  
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Joint Committee on  
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Joint Committee on Cybersecurity,  
Information Technology,  
and Biotechnology



The Maryland House of Delegates  
6 Bladen Street, Room 165  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
410-841-3421 · 301-858-3421  
800-492-7122 Ext. 3421  
Nicholaus.Kipke@house.state.md.us

*The Maryland House of Delegates*  
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

**Testimony in Support of HB693 State Board of Pharmacy - Board Membership and Delegated Pharmacy Acts**

Dear Chairman, Vice Chairman, and members of the Health & Government Operations Committee thank you for the opportunity to speak with you today regarding HB693 titled **State Board of Pharmacy - Board Membership and Delegated Pharmacy Acts**. As the Chairman would expect, I have met with all interested parties to work out issues on the bill and I believe we are close to having it in its proper final disposition that satisfies all stakeholders to the greatest extent possible.

This legislation does the following:

**Increases the number of members of the Board of Pharmacy by adding a pharmacy technician.**

*This is important because technicians have a critical role in the pharmacy and should have a seat at the table on the board.*

**Allows for delegated administrative actions to be done offsite:**

*This makes sense as paperwork that does not need to be done at the pharmacy can be done remotely. Think of an individual during covid who was exposed to covid and required to stay home but feels healthy, they can continue to work on billing, audits, or other administrative work. Sponsor amendment: I have new language which clarifies that the remote work can only be related to data-entry/administrative work not patient care.*

**Allows pharmacy technicians to administer vaccinations, if they are trained and qualified.**

*This is the most controversial part of the bill. Sponsor amendment: to exclude minors, in consideration to concerns raised by pediatricians and several advocacy groups, who expressed concern about the potential impact to well child visits. One reason parents bring their children to well child visits is the requirement to have certain vaccines for attendance at school. Well child visits are critically important for many reasons, that they will explain today. While I am not sponsoring that amendment, the*

*committee may also want to consider the opposition to technicians administering vaccines as there is a broader opposition to this from some in testimony that we have received.*

**Extend their sunset for 10 years. Sponsor amendment: We need to change the effective date to ensure the board does not legally terminate as their sunset is currently July 1, 2023.**

The legislation has virtually no fiscal impact to the state and is a good measure to support local pharmacies. As the fiscal note writer explained, "Independent and community pharmacies may benefit from increased flexibility for their staffing needs as the bill permits certain tasks performed by registered pharmacy technicians to be done remotely."

Thank you for your consideration and I look forward to working with the subcommittee to iron out final details on this legislation.

Warm regards,

