

**Shirley A.
Devaris, RN, BSAD, MA, JD
Consultant – Nursing Regulation
23065 Parsons Road – Chestertown, MD 21620
Email: shirleydevaris@yahoo.com
Phone: 443-926-3040**

**The Honorable Joseline A. Pena-Melnyk, Chair and
The Honorable Ariana. B. Kelly, Vice-Chair
House Health and Government Operations Committee
Room 241 House Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401**

In Re: HB 611

Delegates Pena-Melnyk and Kelly:

This is written to let you know that I wholeheartedly support HB 611. There was a time when I would have strongly opposed departmental intervention in the Board of Nursing (the Board). Times have changed. The Board requirements have grown and management has not been able to keep up with that growth. It never was a model for expert skilled management and at times struggled to keep up with its required functions. The pandemic caught up with its lack of administration and organization. It is going to take an enormous effort to turn it around and I am not sure 2 years will do it.

Unfortunately, I did not have notice of this bill until after it was too late to sign up as a witness and submit testimony. I know this cannot be used as testimony but I wanted both of you to know that you have my support. If you have work groups, I will attend. will play catch up at the Senate hearing.

Best wishes for a successful bill.

Sincerely,

Shirley A. Devaris