



Committee: House Health and Government Operations Committee

Bill: House Bill 278 – Clinical Nurse Specialists - Prescribing Authority

Hearing Date: February 22, 2022

Position: Support

The Maryland Nurses Association (MNA) supports House Bill 278 – *Clinical Nurse Specialists – Prescribing Authority*. The bill authorizes clinical nurse specialists (CNSs) to prescribe medications to their patients.

MNA supports this legislation because of the importance of the role of CNSs. Just as with other advanced practice registered nurses (APRNs), CNSs have the education and experience to diagnose and treat patients in a wide range of settings. In today’s health care environment, CNSs are particularly important, as they also focus on assessing and making recommendations for health systems changes to support best practices. With Maryland’s Total Cost of Care Model and increased focus on the integration of different health care settings, Maryland should be supporting the work of CNSs.

We ask for a favorable report. If we can provide additional information, please contact Robyn Elliott at relliott@policypartners.net.