



MID-ATLANTIC ASSOCIATION OF  
COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTERS

**mdCSWC**

TO: The Honorable Joseline A. Pena-Melnyk, Chair  
Members, House Health and Government Operations Committee  
The Honorable Brian M. Crosby

FROM: Pamela Metz Kasemeyer  
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DATE: February 16, 2023

RE: **SUPPORT** – House Bill 196 – *Health Occupations – Service Members, Veterans, and Military Spouses – Temporary Licensure, Certification, Registration, and Permitting*

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On behalf of the Mid-Atlantic Association of Community Health Centers and the Maryland Clinical Social Work Coalition, we submit this letter of **support** for House Bill 196.

House Bill 196 would allow the Health Occupation Boards to review and grant temporary licensure, certification, registration, and permitting of health practitioners to a service member, veteran, or military spouse who meets defined requirements for the relevant profession. The bill reflects sufficient safeguards to allow the Health Occupation Boards to protect the health and welfare of Maryland residents.

Access to health care challenges and the escalating workforce shortage, have been widely recognized as one of the most critical issues facing Maryland residents. Passage of House Bill 196 will not only provide increased access to care for Maryland residents, but will also enable service members, veterans, and their spouses to find employment in Maryland and be granted the authority to provide the health services they are qualified to deliver. A favorable report is requested.