



Date: February 27, 2023

To: The Honorable Jocelyn Pena-Melnyk, Chair

From: Aliyah N. Horton, CAE, Executive Director, MPhA, 240-688-7808

Cc: Members, House Government Operations Committee

Re: **FAVORABLE HB 693** – State Board of Pharmacy – Board Membership and Delegated Pharmacy Acts

The Maryland Pharmacists Association (MPhA) urges a favorable report for **HB 693 – State Board of Pharmacy – Board Membership and Delegated Pharmacy Acts.**

Founded in 1882, MPhA is the only state-wide professional society representing all practicing pharmacists, pharmacy technicians and student pharmacists in Maryland. Our mission is to strengthen the profession of pharmacy, advocate for all Maryland pharmacists and promote excellence in pharmacy practice. MPhA fully supports the ability for technicians to administer vaccinations; complete remote non-drug handling tasks under supervision; and be included as a voting member of the Maryland Board of Pharmacy.

Technician Administration of vaccinations- SUPPORT

- The bill authorizes the continued ability for pharmacy technicians to do the technical act of administering a vaccine. All clinical counseling remains with the pharmacist.
- The bill is backed by the Board of Pharmacy.
- This bill aligns with the PREP act by maintaining all training requirements.
- Impact of the bill would improve access to vaccinations for Maryland residents and add flexibility in the ability to offer additional healthcare services.
- No changes to parental consent requirements or barriers to the patient to requesting a pharmacist to administer the vaccine.
- This authority has been codified across the country; including: Alaska, Florida, Iowa, Wisconsin, Missouri, Indiana, Virginia, Wyoming, Colorado, New Mexico, Rhode Island, Utah, North Dakota, Nevada, Arkansas, Tennessee, Michigan, Kentucky and New Hampshire.

Remote non-drug handling tasks under supervision – SUPPORT

- Amends the phrasing “directly supervised” to “supervision”.
- “Supervision” is defined as reviewing the work, guiding and directing the activities, and monitoring the performance of an individual.
- Allows technicians to perform non-drug handling tasks remotely, including prescription entry, order entry, data entry, insurance processing, and other administrative functions offsite.
- Benefits of this change allows access to pharmacy technicians in growing virtual work environments.

Pharmacy Technician seat on Board of Pharmacy – SUPPORT

- This bill expands the Board of Pharmacy to include representation of a registered pharmacy technician.
- This would facilitate the appropriate representation of more than 10,000 registered pharmacy technicians in Maryland.

Page 2 - HB 693 – State Board of Pharmacy – Board Membership and Delegated Pharmacy Acts.

A favorable report of HB 693 is also supported by the full Maryland Pharmacy Coalition.

Maryland Pharmacy Coalition

Full members:

- Maryland Pharmacists Association
- American Society of Consultant Pharmacists - Maryland Chapter
- Maryland Pharmaceutical Society
- Maryland Society of Health System Pharmacists
- University of Maryland Baltimore School of Pharmacy Student Government Association
- University of Maryland Eastern Shore School of Pharmacy Student Government Association
- Notre Dame of Maryland University School of Pharmacy Student Government Association

Affiliate members:

- University of Maryland Baltimore School of Pharmacy
- University of Maryland Eastern Shore School of Pharmacy
- Notre Dame of Maryland University School of Pharmacy
- Maryland Association of Chain Drug Stores