



Board of Dietetic Practice

Wes Moore, Governor · Aruna Miller, Lt. Governor · Laura Herrera Scott, M.D., M.P.H., Secretary

Rebecca J. Snow, MS, CNS, LDN, – Marie Savage, Executive Director

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February 16, 2023

The Honorable Joseline A. Peña-Melnyk
Chair, House Health and Government Operations Committee
Room 241, House Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

**RE: HB 196 – Health Occupations – Service Members, Veterans, and Military Spouses –
Temporary Licensure, Certification, Registration, and Permitting – Letter of Information**

Dear Chair Peña-Melnyk and Committee Members:

The Board of Dietetic Practice (the Board) is submitting this letter of information for House Bill (HB) 196 – Health Occupations – Service Members, Veterans, and Military Spouses – Temporary Licensure, Certification, Registration, and Permitting.

The Board currently expedites all applications for service members, veterans, and military spouses. The Board has a paperless licensing system, and the online applications have a check-off box for service members, veterans, and military spouses. Completed applications by service members, veterans and military spouses are top priority and are processed immediately.

The Board receives approximately 300 applications for initial licensure per year. The Board receives maybe one or two applications per year from service members, veterans, or military spouses. The normal processing time for completed applications for the Board is up to 5 business days. A temporary license is not needed for the Board of Dietetic Practice, since the Board already expedites all applications for service members, veterans, and military spouses.

While we agree with the spirit and intent of HB 196, we believe that our current processes of expediting applications are more in line with serving the special circumstances of service members, veterans, and military spouses. Whereas, the process of providing temporary licenses to this group would inadvertently create a longer lead time to licensure and cause additional paperwork.

I hope this information is useful. If you would like to discuss this further, please contact me at 410-764-4741 or marie.savage@maryland.gov.

Sincerely,

Marie M. Savage
Executive Director
Board of Dietetic Practice

The opinion of the Board expressed in this letter of information does not necessarily reflect that of the Department of Health or the Administration.