



Board of Social Work Examiners

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

Sondra G. Petty, Chair – Daphne McClellan, Executive Director

4201 Patterson Avenue, Suite 318 Baltimore, MD 21215 Phone: 410-764-4788

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 Social Work Examiners (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 supports ensuring members of the armed forces and their spouses are given an expedited process to obtain licensure. Our Board currently has an expedited licensure process in place. In addition, The Board has “Licensure by Endorsement” for **any** candidate who is already licensed in another state. Once the applicant has completed an application for endorsement, submitted the required paperwork and paid the appropriate fees, that individual may practice social work without a license in Maryland for up to six months.

The temporary license proposed in this legislation would create a new category of licensure for social workers in Maryland and necessitate changes to our statute and regulations which are not necessary to achieve the goals set forth in HB 196.

The Board is taking no position on HB 196 at this time but is instead providing this letter of information to make you aware of the processes we already have in place to meet the goals of this legislation.

If you would like more information or to discuss this further, please contact Executive Director, Daphne McClellan @ Daphne.McClellan@maryland.gov or 410-764-4722.

Sincerely,

Daphne McClellan, PhD, MSW
Executive Director
Board of Social Work Examiners

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