



Committee: House Ways & Means Committee

Bill Number: Senate Bill 482

Title: Janet L. Hoffman Loan Assistance Repayment Program - Mental Health Professionals in Public Schools

Hearing Date: March 29, 2023

Position: Favorable

The Licensed Clinical Professional Counselors of Maryland (LCPCM) supports *Senate Bill 482 – Janet L. Hoffman Loan Assistance Repayment Program - Mental Health Professionals in Public Schools*. The bill establishes permanent eligibility for mental health professionals in schools to participate in the Janet L. Hoffman Loan Assistance Repayment Program.

LCPCM supports this bill as part of the strategy to address health professional shortages in schools. We believe licensed clinical professional counselors (LCPCs) would be included in the new eligibility category of “Mental Health Professionals in Public Schools.” LCPCs may already participate in the Janet L. Hoffman Loan Assistance Repayment Program if they meet the criteria of working in an underserved area.ⁱ

We ask for a favorable report. If we can provide any additional information, please contact Robyn Elliott at relliott@policypartners.net or (443) 926-3443.

ⁱ https://mhec.maryland.gov/preparing/Pages/FinancialAid/ProgramDescriptions/prog_larp.aspx