
Letter of Support

SB 225 - Occupational Safety and Health Advisory Board – Sunset Extension

This Bill extends the sunset date of the Occupational Safety and Health Advisory Board from July 1, 2024, to July 1, 2034.

The Occupational Safety and Health Advisory Board advises, consults and recommends to the Commissioner reasonable regulations to protect the health and safety of employees in the State. It is composed of 11 voting members, representing business, labor, the health professions, and the public.

The Maryland Occupational Safety and Health plan (MOSH) is a program within the Division of Labor & Industry that protects the health and safety of over 2.5M Maryland workers, both private and public sector. MOSH operates under the authority of federal OSHA and must be “at least as effective as” OSHA. This board is a required element of an Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA)-approved State Plan in order to maintain its Operational Status Agreement with OSHA.

OSHA requires State Plans to have similar enabling legislation to their OSHA Act, which provides the establishment of an advisory board to advise and recommend regulations for adoption. Therefore, state plans like ours must also have one. This board has been approved by OSHA to meet that requirement.

For the above reasons, the Department respectfully requests a **favorable report** by the Committee on SB 225.