## SUPPORT HB 1388

March 28, 2024

I have been a nurse practitioner In Maryland for 43+ years. Non-compete clauses in employment contracts harm providers and patients as well.

Most non-compete clauses stipulate that once a provider leaves that employment, the employee cannot work in that area of specialty for 1-2 years within a 50 mile radius of all the offices associated with the employer. This often results in the employee having to move to another geographic area to practice, leaving behind an entire group of patients who no longer have access to their care. And, as you know, new providers are not easy to find, particularly in all the severe shortage areas in Maryland.

I have seen the damage done by non-compete clauses to patents and providers as well. There are economic damages as well as the trauma of losing a favorite health care provider.

Please eliminate this huge stumbling block to access to care in Maryland and favorable report on HB 1388.

Respectfully,

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