

SUPPORT

SB 359 Advanced Practice Registered Nurse Compact

February 12, 2024

Good afternoon again, Madame Chair and Madame Vice Chair. Thank you, Senator Hayes, for sponsoring this bill.

My name is Samantha Young. I am certified as both a CNS and NP in Maryland

I support passage of Senator Hayes' SB 359 Advanced Practice Registered Nurse Compact.

The Compact benefits the public by improving continuity of care, increasing license portability for advanced practice registered nurses, and increasing access to APRN care. Now more than ever, this issue is of utmost importance. Access to healthcare providers was a challenge prior to the Covid-19 pandemic but has now been magnified due to the high level of care required by community members.

The Covid crisis showed us that our healthcare providers, particularly nurses and APRNs, needed portability and mobility to rush skilled personnel to the epicenters of the pandemic.

SB 359 will enable better communication between state Boards of Nursing while also ensuring licensure requirements are standardized.

The APRN Compact will allow APRNs to apply for a multi-state license, which improves access to care, while also coordinating the exchange of information from state to state.

The adoption of the APRN compact will not only improve the Advance Practice Nurse's ability to practice across state lines but will enhance the protection of the public by establishing a comprehensive licensure information system.

I am asking for a favorable report on SB 359. I urge you to act on our behalf and represent the dominant perspective of our profession at this crucial moment in healthcare. 94% of APRNs who responded to the MBON survey support this legislation.

As a nurse practitioner and clinical nurse specialist, this bill is important to me, my patients and my profession.

Thank you!

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