



Committee: Seante Finance Committee

Bill: Senate Bill 359 – Advanced Practice Registered Nurse Compact

Hearing Date: February 13, 2024

Position: Support

The Maryland Assembly on School-Based Health Centers (MASBHC) supports *Senate Bill 359 – Advanced Practice Registered Nurse Compact*. Under the bill, Maryland would enter into the Advanced Practice Registered (APRN) Nurse Compact, which would allow nurse practitioners and other advanced practice registered nurses from other compact states to work in Maryland.

Maryland urgently needs to expand school-based health centers across Maryland to meet the needs of students for primary, behavioral health, and oral health services. Maryland increased the investment in school-based health centers under the Blueprint, but progress has been hampered by a shortage of nurse practitioners who are the primary providers in school-based health centers. With the APRN compact, Maryland could more easily recruit nurse practitioners to provide both in-person and telehealth services in school-based health centers. It is notable that Delaware has already joined the APRN Compact. If Maryland joins, we could increase availability of school-based health centers on the Eastern Shore by recruiting Delaware-based nurse practitioners.

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.