

**HB0959 (Senate)\_FAV\_DaVita\_Health Occs. - Cert. Di**

Uploaded by: Danna Kauffman

Position: FAV



TO: The Honorable Pamela Beidle, Chair  
Members, Senate Finance Committee  
The Honorable Harry Bhandari

FROM: Danna L. Kauffman  
Pamela Metz Kasemeyer

DATE: March 21, 2024

RE: **SUPPORT** – House Bill 959 – *Health Occupations – Certified Dialysis Technicians – Continuing Education Requirement*

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DaVita is a leading provider of kidney care in the United States. DaVita provides dialysis services to patients with chronic kidney failure and end stage renal disease. DaVita operates or provides administrative services at 2,830 outpatient dialysis centers located in the United States, serving approximately 209,169 patients. In Maryland, DaVita operates 83 dialysis centers where 1,985 teammates provide care for 6,983 patients. DaVita strongly **supports** the passage of House Bill 959.

The bill makes a clarifying change to the continuing education requirement by changing the requirement to three hours of continuing education, rather than one three-hour course. Currently, there is not a three-hour course available. By making this simple change, an individual will be able to access more relevant and diverse educational opportunities that align with their professional development needs. The bill also includes a June 1, 2024, effective date.

During the 2022 Session, the General Assembly passed legislation (House Bill 218) that removed the requirement that an individual be certified as a nursing assistant in order to receive certification as a dialysis technician, aligning Maryland with all other states. Given the health care workforce shortage crisis, it is vital that certified nursing assistants focus on employment where their skills are most needed and not where they are not. House Bill 959, while a seemingly small change, will assist in expediting the promulgation of the regulations necessary to finally enact House Bill 218 from the 2022 Session.

**For more information call:**

Danna L. Kauffman  
Pamela Metz Kasemeyer  
410-244-7000

# **Copy of HB 426 Testimony.docx.pdf**

Uploaded by: Harry Bhandari

Position: FAV

HARRY BHANDARI  
Legislative District 8  
Baltimore County

Health and Government Operations  
Committee



The Maryland House of Delegates  
6 Bladen Street, Room 303  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
410-841-3526 · 301-858-3526  
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Harry.Bhandari@house.state.md.us

THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES  
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

Chair Beidle, Vice Chair Klausmeier, and Members of the Committee,

This bill aims to update and refine the continuing education mandate for Certified Dialysis Technicians (CDTs), ensuring they have access to a broad range of educational opportunities essential for their professional development and patient safety.

By adjusting the requirement to a total of 3 hours of continuing education, without specifying a single course, we enable CDTs to participate in a wider range of educational activities. This amendment facilitates the inclusion of seminars and self-study courses, providing CDTs with more accessible and flexible options to fulfill their continuing education needs. Such an approach not only aids in compliance with certification renewal requirements but also guarantees that CDTs are up-to-date with the latest developments, technologies, and best practices in dialysis care, supporting their ongoing professional growth.

I urge the committee to favorably consider House Bill 959, recognizing its significance in bridging the current gap in educational requirements for CDTs and enhancing the quality of dialysis care.

Thank you.

Delegate Harry Bhandari

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**HB 959 - FIN - MBON - LOS.docx.pdf**

Uploaded by: Jason Caplan

Position: FAV



# Board of Nursing

Wes Moore, Governor · Aruna Miller, Lt. Governor · Laura Herrera Scott, M.D., M.P.H., Secretary

March 19, 2024

The Honorable Pamela Beidle  
Chair, Senate Finance Committee  
3 East Miller Senate Office Building  
Annapolis, MD 21401-1991

**RE: HB 959 – Health Occupations - Certified Dialysis Technicians - Continuing Education Requirement – Letter of Support**

Dear Chair Beidle and Committee Members:

The Maryland Board of Nursing (the Board) respectfully submits this letter of support for House Bill (HB) 959 – Health Occupations - Certified Dialysis Technicians - Continuing Education Requirement. This bill alters the continuing education requirement for certified dialysis technicians (CDTs) to require 3 hours of continuing education approved by the Board.

During the 2022 legislative session, House Bill (HB) 218, Chapter 681 was enacted, requiring the Board to develop regulations that establish CDTs as a separate certification. This legislation also requires CDTs to complete a 3 – hour continuing education course approved by the Board as a condition of certification renewal. Presently, there are no state or national agencies that offer a 3 – hour continuing education course of study for dialysis technicians. The proposed legislation would amend Health Occupations Article §8–6A–08, which governs the renewal qualifications for dialysis technicians, by requiring these certificate holders to complete a total of 3 hours of continuing education, allowing for more continuing education options required for certification renewal. The statutory change will allow CDTs to enroll in seminars and self – study courses that are provided by certain entities.

For the reasons discussed above, the Maryland Board of Nursing respectfully submits this letter of support for HB 959.

I hope this information is useful. For more information, please contact Ms. Mitzi Fishman, Director of Legislative Affairs, at 410-585-2049 or [mitzi.fishman@maryland.gov](mailto:mitzi.fishman@maryland.gov), or Ms. Rhonda Scott, Executive Director, at 410-585-1953 or [rhonda.scott2@maryland.gov](mailto:rhonda.scott2@maryland.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "G. Hicks", written in a cursive style.

Gary N. Hicks  
Board President

**The opinion of the Board expressed in this document does not necessarily reflect that of the Department of Health or the Administration.**



**HB 959 - FIN - MBON - LOS.docx.pdf**

Uploaded by: Rhonda Scott

Position: FAV



# Board of Nursing

Wes Moore, Governor · Aruna Miller, Lt. Governor · Laura Herrera Scott, M.D., M.P.H., Secretary

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Gary N. Hicks  
Board President

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