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Maryland Board of Occupational Therapy Practice
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**2024 SESSION
POSITION PAPER**

BILL NO: HB 146
COMMITTEE: HGO
POSITION: SUPPORT

TITLE: Health Occupations Boards—Reciprocal Licensure and Certification

BILL ANALYSIS: This bill allows for all health occupations boards to have the opportunity to add reciprocity regulations.

POSITION AND RATIONALE: The Maryland Board of Occupational Therapy Practice (the “Board”) supports HB 146.

The Board believes that this bill has the potential to be of great use to both licensees and the public. First, it does not mandate that Boards include reciprocity regulations, but it gives the Board the option to do so in the future.

Secondly, the bill could open doors for licensees. Those licensees who cannot afford the time or the expense to wait for a license in several neighboring states would be able to potentially use reciprocity to treat patients in these states.

Finally, this bill allows for members of the public to have even more choice in selecting a provider. As Maryland closely borders Washington, DC and Virginia, patients could potentially have three times the number of providers from whom to choose, making sure that they receive the best care possible.

The Board supports HB 146 and respectfully asks for a favorable report. If you require additional information, please contact Lauren Murray, Executive Director of the Maryland Board of Occupational Therapy Practice at 410-402-8556 or lauren.murray@maryland.gov.

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