

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

**Board of Professional Counselors and Therapists** 4201 Patterson Avenue, Suite 316 Baltimore, Maryland 212151 Phone: 410-764-4732

## 2024 SESSION POSITION PAPER

BILL No.:HB 628COMMITTEE:HGOPOSITION:Support

**<u>TITLE</u>**: Health Occupations - Clinical Marriage and Family Therapists - Reciprocal Licensure Requirements

**BILL ANALYSIS:** This bill will alter the licensure requirements that the State Board of Professional Counselors and Therapists (the "Board") may waive for applicants for a license to practice clinical marriage and family therapy in the State who are licensed or certified to practice clinical marriage and family therapy in another state, territory, or jurisdiction.

## **POSITION AND RATIONALE:** The Board supports HB 628.

The Board believes that allowing Licensed Marriage and Family Therapists (MFTs) in another state to become licensed in Maryland will serve the residents of Maryland by addressing the workforce crisis in Maryland, by creating the opportunity for access to more MFTs, and a greater choice of treatment modalities.

Thank you for considering this testimony. The Board of Professional Counselors and Therapists is requesting a favorable report on HB 628.

If you require and additional information, please contact the Board's Legislation/Regulations Committee Chair, Karen Katrinic at <u>karen.katrinic@maryland.gov</u> or call 410-533-1991; or contact the Board's Legislative Liaison, Lillian Reese at <u>lillian.reese@maryland.gov</u> or call 443-794-4757.

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