

Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of the Mid-Atlantic States, Inc 2101 East Jefferson Street Rockville, Maryland 20852

February 8, 2024

The Honorable Joseline A. Pena-Melnyk Health and Government Operations Committee House Office Building Room 240 6 Bladen Street Annapolis, Maryland 21401

RE: HB 628 – Support

Dear Chair Pena-Melnyk and Members of the Committee:

Kaiser Permanente is pleased to support HB 628, Health Occupations - Clinical Marriage and Family Therapists - Reciprocal Licensure Requirements."

Kaiser Permanente is the largest private integrated health care delivery system in the United States, delivering health care to over 12 million members in eight states and the District of Columbia. Kaiser Permanente of the Mid-Atlantic States, which operates in Maryland, provides and coordinates complete health care services for over 825,000 members. In Maryland, we deliver care to approximately 475,000 members.

As a leading healthcare provider in the region, we recognize the importance of facilitating efficient licensure reciprocity processes for healthcare professionals, and we believe that House Bill 628 is a positive step in that direction. This is an important measure that promotes mobility and flexibility for healthcare professionals, ultimately benefiting both the professionals themselves and the communities they serve. By facilitating reciprocal licensure for clinical marriage and family therapists, House Bill 628 recognizes the diverse qualifications and experiences of healthcare professionals across different regions. This not only promotes workforce diversity but also enhances the ability of healthcare providers to meet the evolving needs of our communities.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. Please feel free to contact me at Allison.W.Taylor@kp.org or (202) 924-7496 with questions.

Sincerely.

Allison Taylor

Director of Government Relations

Kaiser Permanente

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¹ Kaiser Permanente comprises Kaiser Foundation Health Plan, Inc., the nation's largest not-for-profit health plan, and its health plan subsidiaries outside California and Hawaii; the not-for-profit Kaiser Foundation Hospitals, which operates 39 hospitals and over 650 other clinical facilities; and the Permanente Medical Groups, self-governed physician group practices that exclusively contract with Kaiser Foundation Health Plan and its health plan subsidiaries to meet the health needs of Kaiser Permanente's members.