



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

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

March 21, 2024

The Honorable Joseline A. Peña-Melnyk
Chair, House Health and Government Operations Committee
241 House Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401-1991

RE: Senate Bill 221 – Health Occupations Boards – Reciprocal Licensure and Certification

Dear Chair Peña-Melnyk and Committee Members:

The Maryland Department of Health (Department) respectfully submits this letter of support for Senate Bill (SB) 221 – Health Occupations Boards – Reciprocal Licensure and Certification. SB 221 expands to all of the Health Occupation Boards the statutory authority to enter into reciprocity agreements with other states/jurisdictions.

The Department supports this bill as amended, as it will increase accessibility for Marylanders by reducing their need to travel to neighboring states to receive care from healthcare providers who are not licensed in the State. Additionally, allowing reciprocal licenses will increase the workforce in Maryland by increasing access to licensed and certified individuals across all Health Occupations Boards. The Department supports the Boards interest in expanding the ability of healthcare providers to practice in Maryland.

We believe this bill will increase the healthcare workforce and as a result provide more accessibility to healthcare for Maryland residents. If you would like to discuss this further, please do not hesitate to contact Sarah Case-Herron, Director of Governmental Affairs at sarah.case-herron@maryland.gov or (410) 260-3190.

Sincerely,

Laura Herrera Scott, M.D., M.P.H.
Secretary