



Board of Physicians

Wes Moore, Governor · Aruna Miller, Lt. Governor · Harbhajan Ajrawat, M.D., Chair

2025 SESSION POSITION PAPER

BILL NO.: HB 1480 - Child Advocacy Centers - Continuity of Care Standards for Health Care Professionals and Reports of Violations
COMMITTEE: Appropriations
POSITION: Letter of Information

POSITION & RATIONALE:

The Maryland Board of Physicians (the Board) is respectfully submitting this letter of information for House Bill (HB) 1480 - Child Advocacy Centers - Continuity of Care Standards for Health Care Professionals and Reports of Violations. HB 1480 would require individuals providing medical or mental health services in a child advocacy center to be licensed or certified and to offer services within the scope of their license or certification. Additionally, each child advocacy center would be required to implement a continuity of care plan and report certain violations to the appropriate health occupations board or the Department of Human Services.

The Maryland Board of Physicians (The Board) is one of twenty-one health occupational boards in Maryland responsible for regulating healthcare practitioners. The Board oversees and regulates physicians, physician assistants, and certain other allied health practitioners. If a complaint is made against a physician, physician assistant, or allied health practitioner, the Board should be notified.

While the bill summary states that complaints from each child advocacy center should be forwarded to the relevant health occupations board or the Department of Human Services, the bill's text is unclear. The Board is concerned that the bill, as currently written, could be interpreted to mean that complaints should only be sent to the Department of Human Services.

Thank you for your consideration. For more information, please contact Oriell Harris, Health Policy Analyst Associate, OriellT.Harris@maryland.gov.

Sincerely,

Harbhajan Ajrawat, M.D.
Chair, Maryland Board of Physicians

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