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## The Maryland House of Delegates Annapolis, Maryland 21401

HB 1404 - Rehabilitation Practitioners - Licensed Certified Social Worker - Clinical (LCSW-C)

Under the Labor and Employment Article, a Rehabilitation practitioner currently means a nurse certified by the State Board of Nursing as a nurse case manager, a rehabilitation counselor, and a vocational evaluator. HB 1404 proposes to add a Licensed Certified Social Worker – Clinical to that list of potential providers for those obtaining a determination of benefits from the Maryland Worker's Compensation Commission.

Not all injuries at work are physically apparent, but all services approved by the Worker's Compensation Commission should be available to the complainant. A simple change makes a significant difference in opening the door to more available services for those injured at work.

To become a Licensed Certified Social Worker-Clinical (LCSW-C) in Maryland, you need a CSWE-accredited master's degree in social work, 3,000 hours of supervised clinical social work experience, and a passing score on the ASWB clinical exam. LCSW-C licensees also have a continuing education requirement. These are highly trained providers in the areas of mental and behavioral health.

Just as HB1404 provides for the addition of these professionals as "Rehabilitation Practitioners," HB1404 also states that violations of the rules and regulations adopted by The State Board of Social Work Examiners are grounds for denial or revocation of any applicant or registrant's registration as a Rehabilitation Practitioner.

HB1404 expands the services available to those injured at work through an award of benefits by the Worker's Compensation Commission.

Please enter a FAVORABLE REPORT for HB1404.