



**NURSE PRACTITIONER
Association of Maryland**

"Advocating for Nurse Practitioners since 1992"

January 30, 2025

State Board of Nursing – Advanced Practice Nursing Licensure and Specialty Certification – Reciprocity Discussions (Maryland Border States Advanced Practice Nursing Act)

Position: **SUPPORT**

Dear Chair Beidle, Vice Chair Hayes, and Members of the Committee:

On behalf of the over 850 members, the Nurse Practitioner Association of Maryland, Inc. (NPAM), and the over 10,000 Nurse Practitioners licensed to practice in Maryland, I am writing to support SB 407.

My name is Dale Jafari and I have been a Nurse Practitioner in the State of Maryland for more than 25 years. I serve the five mid-shore communities of Talbot, Dorchester, Caroline, Queen Anne's, and Kent County. This is a rural area with multiple communities of medically underserved populations. The healthcare workforce shortage is negatively impacting access to care. SB 407 will address this issue by enabling the Maryland Board of Nursing (MBON) to negotiate individually with our neighboring states in the development of agreements for Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRNs) to practice in those states. The result should be:

1. Flexibility in agreement to terms for each individual State
2. Respect for each state's autonomy in their Nurse Practice Act
3. Increased MBON revenue through reciprocal licensure fees
4. Increased APRNs in the workforce as Maryland has the desired full practice authority and some of our surrounding states do not
5. Immediate implementation upon agreement between Maryland and the border state entering into the agreement.

We have seen the success for the Maryland Board of Physicians (MBOP) in their reciprocity agreements with Washington, D.C. and Virginia. We believe that the MBON will find an equally successful implementation of reciprocity in our nearby states.

The Nurse Practitioner Association of Maryland is in full support of SB 407. It is our hope that the Bill is given a favorable report so that our patients may have increased access to care for their healthcare needs across urban and rural areas and inclusive of the medically underserved.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me or our government relations consultant, Sarah Peters, at speters@hbstrategies.us.

Sincerely,

S. Dale G. Jafari

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Nurse Practitioner Association of Maryland, Inc.

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