

**To: State Board of Social Work Examiners - Membership and Examination Requirements**  
**Re: SB0379**

From: Veronica Cosby, MSM, MSW  
11018 Arizona Ave NW  
Cumberland, MD 21502  
765-993-8565

**Testimony:**

My testimony is that I am a 59-year-old African American who graduated from Indiana Wesleyan University on 12/19, just before the pandemic. Due to the COVID testing restrictions, I could not test for a year. I eventually tested for the first time at the end of 2020. Since then, I have spent \$3220 @ \$230 on each test and have tested fourteen times. I have lost track of how much I have spent on testing materials. I have over 14 years of social work experience ranging from CPS to psychiatric care. I am now a school social worker, pending my passing the LMSW exam. I love my job, but we struggle to keep good credentialed staff due to low state wages. I am prepared to sit for my LMSW ASWB exam **on February 18th at 8:00 AM** for fifteen time. If I pass, I will have a job. If not, I will be desperately looking for employment. I work in a high-poverty demographic area, and things are only going to get worse in these coming years. I need to be licensed to pursue my LCSW-C, which means I need an additional 3000 supervision hours. Thus, waiting another two years.

Please consider that I love working with and serving underrepresented populations.

In his hands,  
Veronica Cosby MSM, MSW  
Romans 8:28