



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

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

**2025 SESSION
MARYLAND BOARD OF PHARMACY
POSITION PAPER**

BILL NO: SB72 – Health Occupations Boards – English Proficiency Requirements and Licensure by Endorsement for Nursing

COMMITTEE: Health and Government Operations Committee
POSITION: Support with Amendment

TITLE: Health Occupations Boards – English Proficiency Requirements and Licensure by Endorsement for Nursing

BILL ANALYSIS: SB 72 will prohibit health occupations boards from requiring additional evidence of English proficiency as a condition for licensure, certification, or registration if an applicant holds a valid, unrestricted license, certification, or registration from another state with the same requirements.

Additionally, the Board of Nursing, along with the health occupations boards, to maintain a list of States that meet English proficiency requirements.

POSITION AND RATIONALE:

The Board of Pharmacy (the “Board”) would be required to daily monitor English proficiency requirements across the country and in turn update the website accordingly. The process of complying with the legislation is not feasible for the Board as it would require additional staff and training. The Board believes that the costs associated with maintaining this information and the training required for staff, would escalate and is not currently in the Board’s budget to adequately maintain.

It is for these reason that the Board support Senate Bill 72 with the following amendment:

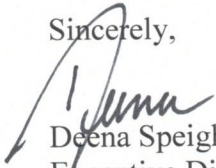
AMENDMENT TO SENATE BILL 72

Page 2 – Line 12, strike “**A LIST OF OTHER STATES THAT HAVE AN ENGLISH PROFICIENCY REQUIREMENT THAT MEETS THE HEALTH OCCUPATION BOARD’S ENGLISH PROFICIENCY REQUIREMENT**” and substitute “**A LIST OF OTHER STATES THAT DO NOT HAVE AN ENGLISH PROFICIENCY REQUIREMENT THAT MEETS THE HEALTH OCCUPATIONS BOARD’S ENGLISH PROFICIENCY REQUIREMENT.**”

The Board fully supports efforts to streamline the licensing process and it is for these reasons that the Board respectfully request a favorable report on SB 72 with the proposed amendment.

For more information, please contact Julie Gaskins, Legislative Liaison, at 410-764-4709 or julie.gaskins2@maryland.gov, or Deena Speights-Napata, MA, Executive Director, Maryland Board of Pharmacy (410) 764-4753.

Sincerely,



Deena Speights-Napata, M.A.
Executive Director

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