

Committee: Senate Finance Committee

Bill: SB 365 Department of Commerce – Nonprofit Organizations Navigator - Established

Hearing Date: February 13, 2025

Position: Support

The Licensed Clinical Professional Counselors of Maryland (LCPCM) support SB 365 Department of Commerce – Nonprofit Organizations Navigator - Established. This bill will establish a nonprofit organizations navigator with the Department of Commerce to provide technical assistance to nonprofit organizations in obtaining access to and applying for State grant programs. The navigator will also work to bring efficiencies to the grant-making process and collect and share information on opportunities for federal, State, and local grants with nonprofit organizations.

SB 365 also adds the nonprofit organizations navigator as a member of the Maryland Efficient Grant Application Council (MEGA), a group created in 2020 to create standards and develop efficiencies within the state grant-making process.

LCPCM supports the creation of the navigator to complement the ongoing work of MEGA by focusing on helping nonprofits access programs as well as help resolve delays and other everyday problems nonprofits may encounter.

For these reasons, LCPCM urges the Committee to give SB 365 a FAVORABLE Report.

Please contact Andrea Mansfield at <u>amansfield@maniscanning.com</u> or (410) 562-1617 if we can provide additional information.