

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

Maryland Board of Pharmacy 4201 Patterson Avenue Baltimore, Maryland 21215

2025 SESSION POSITION PAPER

BILL NO: HB 256

COMMITTEE: Health and Government Operations

POSITION: Support

<u>TITLE</u>: Health Occupations Boards - Membership Alteration and Sunset Extensions

BILL ANALYSIS: The bill, when enacted, extends the termination of the statutory and regulatory authority of several Health Occupation Boards, including the Maryland Board of Pharmacy, until July 1, 2030. The bill also increases the number of board member positions of the State Board of Massage Therapy Examiners from seven to nine.

POSITION AND RATIONALE: The Maryland Board of Pharmacy (the "Board") supports HB 256.

Health Occupation boards are mandated by the General Assembly to protect the public health, well-being, and safety of the citizens of Maryland. A favorable vote to extend the termination date ensures that the Maryland Board of Pharmacy continues to fulfill its mission and mandated responsibilities to issue various types of licenses including, but not limited to, qualified and competent pharmacists and pharmacy technicians; investigate complaints; and discipline licensees found to have violated the Maryland Pharmacy Act. The Board also issues licenses for facilities including distributors and pharmacies.

For these reasons, the Maryland Board of Pharmacy respectfully requests a favorable vote on HB 256.

For more information, please contact the Board's Executive Director, Deena Speights-Napata at deena.speights-napata@maryland.gov or call 410-764-4753.

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