



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

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

Maryland Board of Massage Therapy Examiners
4201 Patterson Avenue, Suite 301
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2025 SESSION POSITION PAPER

BILL NO: HB 256
COMMITTEE: Health and Government Operations
POSITION: Support

TITLE: 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 State Board of Massage Therapy Examiners, until July 1, 2031. 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 State Board of Massage Therapy Examiners (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 the State Board of Massage Therapy Examiners continues to fulfill its mission and mandated responsibilities to credential and license qualified, competent massage professionals; investigate complaints; and discipline licensed massage therapists and registered massage practitioners found to have violated the Maryland Massage Therapy Act. Furthermore, the State Board of Massage Therapy Examiners has no outstanding deficiencies to correct.

With regard to expanding the board membership of the State Board of Massage Therapy Examiners, the Board believes that this would improve governance, efficiency, decision-making on disciplinary cases, diversity of thoughts, and innovation.

For these reasons, the State Board of Massage Therapy Examiners respectfully requests a favorable vote on HB 256.

For more information, please contact Sharon J. Oliver, Executive Director at 410-764-5985 or Sharon.oliver@maryland.gov, or Lillian Reese, the Legislative Liaison for the boards at 443-794-4757 or at lillian.reese@maryland.gov.

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