

| Committee: | Health and Government Operations/Judiciary |
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| Bill: | HB 926 – Health Care Malpractice Claims – Health Care Provider - Definition |
| Hearing Date: | February 26, 2025 |
| Position: | Support With Amendment |

The Licensed Clinical Professional Counselors of Maryland (LCPCM) supports with amendment House Bill 926 – Health Care Malpractice Claims – Health Care Provider - Definition. The bill expands the definition of a "health care provider" for health care malpractice claims to include an employee, agent, or contractor of a hospital who is licensed, certified, registered, or otherwise authorized to render health care services in Maryland.

As trained, licensed, health care professionals treating mental, behavioral, and emotional problems and disorders, LCPCM requests an amendment to include an individual who is licensed, certified, or otherwise authorized to practice counseling and therapy services under Title 17 of the Health Occupations Article within the definition of "health care provider" for purposes of the health care malpractice law.

LCPCM urges the Committee to give House Bill 926 a FAVORABLE WITH AMENDMENTS Report.

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