



Health and Government Operations
January 21, 2025
HOUSE BILL 345
Interstate Social Work Licensure Compact

SUPPORT

We are a collective of Maryland licensed certified clinical social workers, clinical professional counselors, and licensed master social workers operating in private practice, and in diverse state, federal, and for-profit entities, committed to offering culturally infused professional development and networking experiences. Our network operates in the spirit of collegueship, information sharing, and mutual support.

We write to express our strong support for the proposed Interstate Social Work Licensure Compact.

As providers originating from underrepresented communities and serving those from culturally biased and underrepresented backgrounds, we recognize the critical need for inclusion in vital opportunities.

We endorse this legislation as it aligns with the evolving needs of care. Operating within the present limitations on practicing across state lines poses substantial challenges for us and the diverse range of clients we serve. The immediate benefits of the compact are evident: it provides flexibility and continuous care for clients temporarily relocating outside of Maryland and alleviates the burdens associated with seeking licensure in multiple states.

This collective of providers, The Black Collective Training Network, strongly encourages you to vote in favor of this pivotal initiative that will enhance accessibility to social work, support licensed social work providers, and contribute to the overall well-being of our communities.

Sincerely,

The Black Collective Training Network:

Dionne Brown-Bushrod, LCSW-C, Ayana Burnett, LCSW-C, Ruben Carroll, LCSW-C, Shonda Conyers, LCSW-C, Brittany Duke, LCSW-C, Candace Hawkins, LCSW-C, Barbie Johnson-Lewis, LCSW-C, Patricia Roberts-Rose, LCSW-C, Stacey Robinson, LCSW-C, Melodye Watson, LCSW-C (MD), LCSW (VA and NC), LICSW (DC)

Train. Refer. Network. Serve.

✉ practicesocialwork7@gmail.com

🌐 ProacticeSocialWork.com