



*Wes Moore, Governor · Aruna Miller, Lt. Governor · Ryan Moran, DrPH, MHSA, Acting Secretary*

March 10, 2025

The Honorable Joseline A. Peña-Melnyk  
Chair, House Health and Government Operations Committee  
Room 241, Taylor House Office Building  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

**RE: House Bill 1199 – Physicians - Licensing - Internationally Trained Physicians – Letter of Support**

Dear Chair Peña-Melnyk and Committee Members:

The Maryland Department of Health (MDH) respectfully submits this letter of support to House Bill 1199 - Physicians - Licensing - Internationally Trained Physicians.

House Bill 1199 (HB 1199) authorizes the Board of Physicians to issue a license to an internationally trained physician to practice medicine under certain circumstances determined by the Board of Physicians. The licenses issued by the Board of Physicians to these physicians may not exceed a period of three (3) years and they cannot be renewed. HB 1199 also empowers the Board of Physicians to revoke these licenses under certain circumstances and requires the Board of Physicians to adopt regulations for the implementation of this bill.

MDH supports HB 1199 as another strategy to improve access to health care and to reduce the physician shortage in the state. Licenses issued to these internationally trained physicians, upon meeting the Board of Physicians' requirements, will help alleviate the shortage of healthcare providers, especially in healthcare workforce shortage areas. The recruitment of these foreign-trained physicians already located in Maryland to practice in the state would improve access to care and decrease health disparities, especially in vulnerable communities. Currently, Maryland has a shortage of primary care physicians, especially in rural and underserved parts of the state. With the passage of HB 1199, the newly licensed foreign-trained physicians could assist in closing the primary care physician shortage gap and enhance healthcare access, while improving the overall healthcare workforce in Maryland.

If you have any further questions, please contact Sarah Case-Herron, Director, Office of Governmental Affairs at [sarah.case-herron@maryland.gov](mailto:sarah.case-herron@maryland.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Ryan B. Moran". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath the name.

Ryan Moran, Dr. PH  
Acting Secretary