

Committee:	House Health and Government Operations Committee
Bill:	HB 256 - Health Occupations Boards - Membership Alteration and Sunset Extensions
Hearing Date:	January 30, 2025
Position:	Support

The Licensed Clinical Professional Counselors of Maryland (LCPCM) support HB 256 Health Occupations Boards - Membership Alteration and Sunset Extensions. This bill extends the operations of the State Board of Professional Counselors and Therapists (BOPCT), as well as several other boards until July 1, 2031.

As professionals regulated by the BOPCT, we see firsthand the benefit of the Board to the professionals it serves and the protection provided to the citizens of Maryland. The BOPCT promotes quality health care in the field of counseling and therapy by establishing standards and verifying the credentials of those who practice in Maryland. In addition, BOPCT receives, investigates, and resolves complaints of alleged violations of regulations and statutes.

LCPCM believes the continuation of the BOPCT is extremely important for the integrity of the profession and protection of the public. For these reasons LCPCM urges the Committee to give HB 256 a FAVORABLE Report.

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