

Honorable Members of the Health and Government Operations Committee,

I am a doctor originally licensed in the country of Afghanistan and a Maryland resident. I strongly support Maryland's HB1199 because this legislation creates a pathway for doctors like me to return to medical practice.

My name is Ahmad Shafiq Farid. I am an Assistant Professor at the Faculty of Medicine, Herat University, where I was a member of the Department of Surgery. I earned my Doctor of Medicine degree in 1999 and have over 22 years of experience in the medical field. In 2014, I completed my Clinical Master's degree in Gynecology and Obstetrics, along with a fellowship in Endoscopic Surgery.

I hold multiple certifications in medical education from Tokyo University in Japan and in Diagnostic Medical Sonography from Pakistan, among others. Additionally, I have published several research articles in the medical field, including an evaluation of the incidence of eclampsia and preeclampsia syndrome. You can find this article by searching my name.

Since I have arrived in the US, I have experienced many significant barriers returning to medical practice in Maryland and I am eager to use my skills to serve the community. I ask that you consider supporting HB1199 as I believe it helps Internationally Trained Physicians overcome the challenge of matching for residency, while ensuring quality training and quality patient care. Further, it helps to address the shortage of doctors in underserved communities. I hope I can count on your support and consideration.

Sincerely,

Dr. Ahmad Shafiq Farid

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