



Maryland
Hospital Association

House Bill 1199- Physicians - Licensing - Internationally Trained Physicians

Position: *Support with Amendments*

March 10, 2025

House Health & Government Operations Committee

MHA Position

On behalf of the Maryland Hospital Association's (MHA) member hospitals and health systems, we appreciate the opportunity to comment in support of House Bill 1199.

Maryland hospitals continue to face a staffing shortage. This includes physician shortages especially in certain specialties such as anesthesia, cardiology, gastroenterology, primary care, psychiatry, and radiology. Internationally trained physicians, who are licensed in their home countries, could play a significant role in filling these vacancies in addition to bringing years of experience and expertise to Maryland.

As a result of legislation introduced during the 2024 legislative session, MHA participated in the Maryland Board of Physicians' Work Group to Study Licensure of Foreign-Trained Physicians and International Medical Graduates the Maryland Board of Physicians during the interim. HB 1199 aligns with the work group's report recommendations, and, if passed, would help create a pathway to licensure for these physicians without requiring the completion of post-graduate training in the United States.

We understand several amendments are being put forward by the Board of Physicians, the University of Maryland Faculty Physicians, Inc. and the University of Maryland School of Medicine to clarify and strengthen HB 1199. We support these amendments and look forward to continuing to work with the Board of Physicians and stakeholders to develop this pathway to licensure for internationally trained physicians.

HB 1199 takes a critical step forward in removing barriers for internationally trained physicians to practice in Maryland, which will help address the ongoing challenges with filling physician vacancies across the state.

For these reasons, we request a favorable report on HB 1199.

For more information, please contact:

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