

Committee: House Health and Government Operations Committee

Bill: HB 745 – State Board of Professional Counselors and Therapists – Behavior

Analysts - Licensure Applications

Hearing Date: February 13, 2025

Position: Support With Amendments

The Licensed Clinical Professional Counselors of Maryland (LCPCM) supports HB 745 – State Board of Professional Counselors and Therapists – Behavior Analysts – Licensure Applications with amendments. This bill puts certain time requirements in place for the issuance of a behavior analyst license and requires notification from the Board to applicants when applications are received, begin review, determined more information is necessary, or decisions are made to issue or deny a license.

LCPCM supports the intent of this bill and the establishment of timeframes for the review and issuance of licenses, as well as providing communication as to application status throughout the process. However, LCPCM is concerned that the 10-day timeframe for the issuance of a license for a completed application is too short and will not provide sufficient time for applicants and regulatory bodies to gather necessary information, verify details, and ensure compliance with required procedures.

Given the complexity and administrative requirements involved, LCPCM respectfully requests the bill be amended to provide for a 30-day window to provide a license. This will ensure adequate time for thorough review, appropriate action and consistency with the processing for other licenses.

For these reasons, LCPCM urges the Committee to give HB 745 a FAVORABLE Report WITH AMENDMENTS to change the timeframe for the review of a completed application from 10 to 30 days.

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