



Board of Nursing

Wes Moore, Governor · Aruna Miller, Lt. Governor · Laura Herrera Scott, M.D., M.P.H., Secretary

April 1st, 2025

The Honorable William C. Smith
Chair, Judicial Proceedings Committee
Room 2
Senate Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: HB 1480 – Child Advocacy Centers - Continuity of Care Standards for Health Care Professionals and Reports of Violations

Dear Chair Smith and Committee Members:

The Maryland Board of Nursing (the Board) respectfully submits this letter of support as amended for HB 1480 – Child Advocacy Centers - Continuity of Care Standards for Health Care Professionals and Reports of Violations. This bill aims to enhance the standards and oversight of child advocacy centers in Maryland, particularly concerning the qualifications of health care professionals and the continuity of care provided to children. The Board has no issues with the amendments and continues its support for the bill.

As a health care licensure Board, it is part of our mission to ensure quality care in the State. For over three decades, Child Advocacy Centers have been an integral piece of Maryland's care network, and a crucial tool in fighting child abuse. The centers are typically staffed by nurses and other health care staff licensed by the Board. Given the vulnerable population Child Advocacy Centers care for, it is essential that they receive treatment from individuals who have met all appropriate training standards and who are consistently evaluated for their capability to provide care. This bill solidifies into law these high standards we expect of employees at Child Advocacy Centers, and ensures a robust continuity of care plan for each patient. As such, the Board is supportive of the bill as amended and encourages the committee to provide a favorable report.

Thank you again for your time. For more information, please contact Ms. Mitzi Fishman, Director of Legislative Affairs, at 410-585-2049 or mitzi.fishman@maryland.gov, or Ms. Rhonda Scott, Executive Director, at 410-585-1953 or rhonda.scott2@maryland.gov.

Sincerely,

Christine Lechliter
Board President

The opinion of the Board expressed in this document does not necessarily reflect that of the Department of Health or the Administration.