

February 3rd, 2025

Maryland House of Representatives
Ways and Means Committee
130 Taylor House Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Dear Honorable Chair, Vice-Chair and Members of the Committee:

On behalf of the pediatric nurse practitioners of the National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners (NAPNAP) Chesapeake Chapter, we are writing to express our **support of Income Tax - Credits for Nursing Program Preceptors in Areas With Health Care Workforce Shortages – Alterations.**

This bill seeks to reduce the 100-hour clinical rotation requirement to 90 hours and to end the existing sunset provision. Most nursing programs require approximately 90 hours of clinical practice, and many of our preceptors never reach the 100 hours mentioned in the current bill language. This discrepancy can create a barrier for preceptors who are dedicated to their role but unable to meet the higher threshold. Additionally, if this bill is not passed the tax credit will end for all Maryland nurses.

Nursing preceptors play a critical role in the training and development of future nurses. These dedicated professionals provide invaluable hands-on guidance and mentorship, which is essential for the practical education of nursing students. Nursing preceptors not only impart their extensive knowledge and expertise but also model the professional behaviors and standards expected in healthcare settings. This mentorship is critical in ensuring that new nurses are well-prepared to deliver high-quality patient care. However, the demanding nature of this role often goes unrecognized and unrewarded, which can lead to burnout and a shortage of willing preceptors.

By offering an income tax credit to nursing preceptors, we can acknowledge their vital contributions and provide a meaningful incentive for their continued participation in this essential educational process. This tax credit would not only alleviate some of the financial burdens associated with their additional responsibilities but also serve as a tangible appreciation for their commitment to nurturing the next generation of nurses.

The nursing profession is currently facing significant challenges, including workforce shortages and increasing demands for healthcare services. Investing in nursing preceptors through an income tax credit is a strategic move that will help address these challenges by ensuring that nursing students receive the high-quality mentorship they need to succeed.

For these reasons the Maryland Chesapeake Chapter of NAPNAP extends their **support of Income Tax - Credits for Nursing Program Preceptors in Areas With Health Care Workforce Shortages – Alterations.** and requests a favorable report.

The pediatric advanced practice nurses of your state are grateful to you for your attention to these crucial issues. The Chesapeake Chapter of NAPNAP includes over 200 primary and acute care pediatric nurse practitioners who are committed to improving the health and advocating for MD's pediatric patients. If we can be of any assistance, please do not hesitate to contact us at mdchesnapnapleg@outlook.com.

Sincerely,

Yvette Laboy

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