



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Wes Moore, Governor · Aruna Miller, Lt. Governor · Meena Seshamani, M.D., Ph.D., Secretary

*Maryland State Board of Dental Examiners
Spring Grove Hospital Center • Benjamin Rush
Building
55 Wade Avenue/Tulip Drive • Catonsville, MD
21228*

March 4, 2026

The Honorable Kriselda Valderrama
Chair, House Economic Matters Committee
230 Taylor House Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401-1991

Re: HB 1120 Professional Licensing Portability-Members of the Foreign Service and Spouses-
Dental Board – Letter of Support

Dear Chair Valderrama and Committee Members:

The Maryland State Board of Dental Examiners respectfully submits this letter of support for HB 1120 Professional Licensing Portability-Members of the Foreign Service and Spouses. The bill allows a member of the Foreign Service or their spouse who relocates to Maryland because of an assignment or detail to the State, and who holds a license issued by another state, to practice under their license in Maryland for the duration of the assignment or detail. This would include practicing dentistry, dental hygiene, or dental assisting in Maryland under an out-of-state license. The member of the Foreign Service or their spouse must provide the licensing authority, such as the Dental Board with a copy of the notification of assignment or detail. In addition, the individual must remain in good standing with the regulatory board that issued the license and remain in good standing in all jurisdictions in which the applicant holds or has held a license. Further, the applicant must have actively used the license during the 2 years immediately preceding the relocation and they must comply with the standards of practice, discipline, and fulfillment of any continuing education requirements required by the licensing authority. The Maryland licensing authority may not require the member of the Foreign Service or their spouse to obtain a license unless the member of the Foreign Service or their spouse seeks to practice in a different discipline or within a different scope of practice.

The Dental Board supports the bill. The bill will benefit Foreign Service members and their spouses who wish to practice outside of the Foreign Service in private dental offices during the duration of their assignment. Principally, it allows those individuals to supplement their income when off duty. It minimizes disruption and allows the member of the Foreign Service or their spouse to use existing credentials. The bill enhances the portability of dental licensure and helps transition those who may eventually seek private employment or self-employment.

For these reasons, the Board requests that HB 1120 receive a favorable report.

I hope that this information is helpful. If you would like to discuss this further, please contact me at 202-997-2606; chiyo.alie@maryland.gov.

Sincerely,
Chiyo Alie, D.D.S.
Chiyo Alie, D.D.S.
Board President

The opinion of the Maryland State Board of Dental Examiners expressed in this letter of support does not necessarily reflect that of the Department of Health or the administration.