



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

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

March 26, 2026

The Honorable Brian J. Feldman
Chair, Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee
2 West Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

RE: House Bill 640 – Mandated Reports, Boards, and Commissions - Revisions – Letter of Support With Amendments

Dear Chair Feldman and Committee members:

The Maryland Department of Health (the Department) respectfully submits this letter of support with amendments for House Bill (HB) 640 – Mandated Reports, Boards, and Commissions - Revisions. HB 640 streamlines selected boards and commissions, as well as reporting requirements. HB 640 would reduce duplicative efforts and enhance efficiency in program administration.

The Department supports these clarifications and streamlining efforts, and submits attached amendments to HB 640 to modify report frequency for the Maryland Loan Assistance Repayment Program Advisory Council for Physicians and Physician Assistants, modify the reporting due date for the Income Tax - Credits for Preceptors in Areas With Health Care Workforce Shortages reports and align the bill with Chapter 605 of the Acts of 2025 (HB 1253), which transfers the Office of Social Equity from the Maryland Cannabis Administration to the newly established Department of Social and Economic Mobility, effective October 1, 2025.

The Department submits amendments to Article - Health - General, §24–1708 (g) to change the frequency of the Maryland Loan Assistance Repayment Program Advisory Council for Physicians and Physician Assistants report from an annual to every three (3) years, to give the Advisory Council ample time to produce a timely report with robust recommendations. Additionally, amendments are submitted to Articles - Tax-General §10–738 (d)(2), §10–739 (e)(2), §10–739.1 (e)(2), and §10–752 (e)(2) to extend the required reports on or before January 31 of each taxable year, to the General Assembly on the utilization of the credit for each Income Tax Credit for Preceptors program to March 1, to align with the closure of the tax year and application cycle.

If you would like to discuss this further, please do not hesitate to contact Meghan Lynch, Director of Governmental Affairs at meghan.lynch@maryland.gov.

Sincerely,

Meena Seshamani, M.D., Ph.D.
Secretary of Health

AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE BILL 640
(Third Reading File Bill)

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 25, in line 11, strike “Maryland Cannabis Administration” and substitute “**DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC MOBILITY**”.

Rationale: To align with Chapter 605 of the Acts of 2025 (HB 1253 – Department of Social and Economic Mobility – Established), which, effective October 1, 2025, transferred the Office of Social Equity from the Maryland Cannabis Administration to the newly established Department of Social and Economic Mobility.

AMENDMENT NO. 2

On Page 26, Line 1, Before “19–101.” Insert:

ARTICLE - HEALTH - GENERAL, §24–1708 (G)
ON OR BEFORE OCTOBER 1 ~~EACH YEAR,~~ EVERY THREE YEARS.

Rationale: The Maryland Loan Assistance Repayment Program Advisory Council for Physicians and Physician Assistants, which is staffed by the Department, and the Primary Care Office within the Office of Population Health Improvement (OPHI) holds a seat at the Advisory Council, has recommended in the last 2 annual reports to move annual reporting requirement from every year to every 3 years. This amendment would provide sufficient time to enable the Council to fulfill its mandates and produce robust reports from its work.

AMENDMENT NO. 3

On Page 30, Line 27, Before “Article – Housing and Community Development.” Insert:

ARTICLE - TAX - GENERAL, §10–738 (D)(2)
ON OR BEFORE ~~JANUARY 1~~ MARCH 1 OF EACH TAXABLE YEAR.

ARTICLE - TAX - GENERAL, §10–739 (E)(2)
ON OR BEFORE ~~JANUARY 1~~ MARCH 1 OF EACH TAXABLE YEAR.

ARTICLE - TAX - GENERAL, §10–739.1 (E)(2)
ON OR BEFORE ~~JANUARY 1~~ MARCH 1 OF EACH TAXABLE YEAR.

ARTICLE - TAX - GENERAL, §10–752 (E)(2)
ON OR BEFORE ~~JANUARY 1~~ MARCH 1 OF EACH TAXABLE YEAR.

Rationale: For effective and efficient administration and management of the Tax Credit for Preceptors Programs, the Department has previously sought to amend the annual reports of the General Assembly’s due date from January 31 to March 1. It is difficult to meet the General Assembly’s current reporting due date of January 31 due to the Tax Credit application cycle.