



Board of Physicians

Wes Moore, Governor · Aruna Miller, Lt. Governor · Harbhajan Ajrawat, M.D., Chair

2026 SESSION POSITION PAPER

BILL NO.: SB 568 - Health Occupations - Licensed Psychologists - Prescriptive Authority
COMMITTEE: Finance
POSITION: Letter of Information

The Maryland Board of Physicians (the Board) is respectfully submitting this Letter of Information for Senate Bill (SB) 568 - Health Occupations - Licensed Psychologists - Prescriptive Authority. SB 568 authorizes a licensed psychologist to use prescriptive authority under certain circumstances. In addition, SB 568 requires a report be transmitted to the Board of Physicians (1) if a psychologist is granted prescriptive authority, (2) if the prescriptive authority is revoked, suspended, or reinstated, or (3) if the license of a prescribing psychologist is revoked, suspended, or reinstated.

It is not within the scope of the Board to opine on whether a psychologist should be granted prescriptive authority, and the reports to the Board required under SB 568 are not within the Board's purview. The Board does not regulate psychologists, and there is no precedent for other health occupations authorized to prescribe to report this information.

In addition, there is little nexus between a prescribing psychologist and a physician. While HB 568 requires that a prescribing psychologist coordinate with the patient's medical provider, there are multiple other health occupations who may be acting as the patient's medical provider whose regulatory boards are not included in the reporting requirement, such as nurse practitioners.

The Board requests to be removed from the reporting requirement found on page 10 lines 9 through 18:

(B) (1) AT THE TIME THE BOARD CERTIFIES A PRESCRIBING PSYCHOLOGIST UNDER THIS SUBTITLE, THE BOARD SHALL PROMPTLY TRANSMIT THE INFORMATION LISTED IN SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION FOR THE PRESCRIBING PSYCHOLOGIST TO ~~[THE STATE BOARD OF PHYSICIANS AND]~~ THE STATE BOARD OF PHARMACY.

(2) THE BOARD SHALL PROMPTLY NOTIFY ~~[THE STATE BOARD OF PHYSICIANS AND]~~ THE STATE BOARD OF PHARMACY IF THE BOARD REVOKES, SUSPENDS, OR REINSTATES THE CERTIFICATION OR LICENSE OF A PRESCRIBING PSYCHOLOGIST OR HAS A CERTIFICATION OR LICENSE REVOKED, SUSPENDED, OR REINSTATED.

Thank you for your consideration. For more information, please contact Madeline DelGreco, Manager of Policy and Legislation, at 410-764-5053.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Harbhajan Ajrawat".

Harbhajan Ajrawat, M.D.
Chair, Maryland Board of Physicians

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