



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

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

Maryland Board of Pharmacy

Kristopher Rusinko, PharmD, Board President
Deena Speights-Napata, M.A., Executive Director
4201 Patterson Avenue
Baltimore, MD 21215-2299

February 5, 2026

Pamela Biedle, Chairperson
Antonio Hayes, Vice Chairperson
Maryland General Assembly
Maryland Senate- Finance Committee

RE: SB 385 Public Health - Recommendations for Immunizations, Screenings, and Preventative Services - Pharmacist Administration and Required Health Insurance Coverage (The Vax Act)

Dear Chairperson Beidle, Vice Chairperson Hayes and Members of the Committee:

The Board of Pharmacy (the “Board”) worked closely with the Maryland Department of Health last fall to ensure all Marylanders had access to certain vaccines. The Board feels that HB 637 is a continuation of the Department’s efforts to provide access to vaccinations based on sound clinical guidance and therefore, the Board is in full support. In addition, HB 637 provides much needed clarity for pharmacists who provide vaccination services to a significant number of Maryland citizens. Since the COVID pandemic, the State has increasingly relied on pharmacists to provide immunizations to the citizens of Maryland. This bill would ensure the ability of pharmacists to continue to provide these vital services without risk or ambiguity that may arise from possible CDC deviations from prevailing clinical guidelines.

To that end, the Board of Pharmacy requests that you return a favorable report.

Should you have additional questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

Kris Rusinko
Board President