



"Being here for Maryland's Children, Youth, and Families"

Testimony submitted to Senate Finance Committee
March 31, 2026

**House Bill 1482: Clinical Professional Counseling and Social Work - Out-of-State
Providers - Use of Telehealth for Continuity of Care
Opposition**

The Maryland Association of Youth Service Bureaus (MAYSB), which represents a network of Bureaus throughout the State of Maryland, **opposes** House Bill 1483, Clinical Professional Counseling & Social Work-Use of Telehealth for Continuity of Care.

Youth Service Bureaus have provided prevention, intervention and mental health treatment services for Maryland youth and their families for more than 50 years. MAYSB has several concerns about this legislation.

It initially might seem helpful for the General Assembly to support a mechanism through which a mental health patient might continue to work with an established provider. However, there are several reasons why this bill as written is dangerous for Maryland consumers.

First, the bill contains no mechanisms by which therapeutic practice within the law can be reliably verified. It would be nearly impossible for Maryland regulatory boards to confirm which clients of out-of-state providers had a previous relationship with their provider in another state, or who might be bending the rules to expand their practice.

Second, the Maryland licensing boards have no legal oversight of clinicians from other states. Maryland would therefore be powerless to stop harmful practice, even if that harmful practice were occurring within our state.

Third, Maryland standards were written carefully, with the purpose of creating requirements that create a high standard of care for our citizens. Many other states require fewer education, training and supervised practice hours than are required for Maryland license holders. It doesn't make sense that we would permit lower standards for out-of-state practitioners. Lastly, there is an existing route for providing clinical services to Maryland residents: applying for a Maryland license.

MAYSB respectfully requests that you do **not** vote in favor of HB 1483.

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