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Judiciary Committee



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*The Maryland House of Delegates*  
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

March 16, 2026

The Honorable Delegate Heather Bagnall  
241 Taylor House Office Building  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

**SPONSOR TESTIMONY- HB1527 Complementary and Alternative Health Care - Practice  
Authorized (Complementary and Alternative Health Care Practice Act)**

Dear Chair Bagnall, Vice Chair Cullison and members of the House Health Committee,

HB1527 authorizes individuals to practice complementary or alternative health care in Maryland without obtaining a traditional license, certification, or authorization under current health occupation boards. The bill explicitly defines a broad range of practices, such as aromatherapy, reflexology, meditation, and traditional naturopathy, that fall under this scope. To protect consumers, the legislation establishes requirements for practitioners, including the mandatory provision of a written notice to clients outlining their credentials, background, and the services provided.

This bill increases consumer choice in holistic care without compromising professional health standards or public safety. To ensure public safety, the bill strictly prohibits these practitioners from performing invasive procedures such as surgery, setting fractures, X-ray radiation, prescribing drugs, or manipulating the spine, unless they hold a separate license that authorizes such activities. Importantly, consumers retain all current legal protections and rights to seek redress if necessary.

For these reasons, I urge a favorable report for HB1527 to increase access to diverse health practices while upholding necessary standards for consumer transparency and public safety.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Lauren C. Arikan".

Delegate Lauren C. Arikan