



## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

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

Health Occupations Boards  
4201 Patterson Avenue  
Baltimore, Maryland 21215

Maryland Board of Nursing  
4140 Patterson Avenue  
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Maryland Board of Dental Examiners  
Spring Grove Hospital Center/Rush Bldg.  
55 Wade Avenue/Tulip Drive  
Catonsville, Maryland 21228

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### 2026 SESSION POSITION PAPER

**BILL NO:** SB 806  
**COMMITTEE:** Health  
**POSITION:** Support

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**TITLE:** Health Occupations – Criminal History Records Checks

**BILL ANALYSIS:** To establish and alter requirements related to criminal history records checks for certain licenses and certificates issued by certain health occupations boards.

**POSITION AND RATIONALE:** The following Boards support SB 806: The Maryland Board of Acupuncture, the Maryland Board for Certification of Residential Child Care Program Professionals, the Maryland Board of Dental Examiners, the Maryland Board of Dietetic Practice, the Maryland Board of Environmental Health Specialists, the Maryland Board of Morticians and Funeral Directors, the Maryland Board of Nursing, the Maryland Board of Optometry, the Maryland Board of Pharmacy, the Maryland Board of Physical Therapy Examiners, the Maryland Board of Podiatric Medical Examiners, and the Maryland Board of Examiners of Psychologists (the “Boards”).

Various health occupations boards currently do not require criminal history records checks (CHRC) as a condition of licensure and some do not receive subsequent alerts of criminal activity (Record of Arrest and Prosecution or Rap Back). Two boards need to update CHRC in their statute for license renewals and reinstatements. The Office of Legislative Audits (OLA) submitted a report on April 9, 2025, that recommended that all of the health occupations boards require criminal background checks when an individual applies to become a licensed health

professional/and or Rap Back. In order to add CHRC, statutes for the boards included in SB 806 need to be amended.

For these reasons, the Boards support SB 806 and request a favorable report.

If you require more information, please contact Lillian Reese, Legislative Liaison for the Health Occupations Boards, at 443-794-4757 or [lillian.reese@maryland.gov](mailto:lillian.reese@maryland.gov).

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