

03/11/2026

Maryland General Assembly
Health Committee
House Office Building, Room 240
6 Bladen Street
Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: Support with Amendments - HB 1284 - Residential Service Agencies - Private Duty Nursing - On-Site Nurse Training Programs

Dear Chair Bagnall and Health Committee members,

My name is Ade Olatilo, I am the Area Vice President of Clinical Operations at Maxim Healthcare and I oversee clinical operations for Maryland and New York. I have been a nurse for 26 years and have worked at Maxim for 18 years.

Maxim provides skilled nursing services to individuals with significant medical needs including those living with conditions such as Cerebral Palsy, ALS and other complex neurological and degenerative disorders. These individuals require ongoing clinical oversight and specialized care that is delivered by licensed nursing professionals. To support these medical fragile individuals in their homes and communities we utilize Registered Nurses (RN) and Licensed Practical Nurses (LPN) to deliver the skilled care that is tailored to each client's needs. Services typically range from 4 to 24 hours per day depending on the medical acuity of the individual and the physician-ordered plan of care.

Our goal is to keep these individuals in the home setting, which promotes the highest quality of life for both the patients and their families so that they can have the opportunity to engage in their Maryland communities.

Maxim utilizes a Skills Advancement Program to train nurses who do not have pediatric, tracheostomy and/or ventilator experience or recent pediatric experience in the skills they need to gain employment. One of our most utilized Skilled Advancement Programs across the country is the Home Ventilator Training course for nurses that was created in partnership with Johns Hopkins University. In addition, we have a Novice Nurse Training Program that is designed to provide a year of hands-on learning and support to licensed nurses with less than one year of nursing experience.

In 2025, Maxim trained more than 7,000 nurses through our skills advancement programs. These programs are successful across all other states Maxim provides care in, except in Maryland. In fact, all other payors in Maryland allow us to skills advance, but we cannot under Medicaid.

Nurses who have advanced training and expertise in caring for medically fragile, technology-dependent patients are an essential and increasingly limited resource. Nurses with pediatric experience are in even greater demand. The ability for nurses to safely care for patients at home is critically dependent upon having the resources to recruit, train and retain a dynamic team of readily available, highly skilled nurses. To meet the demand for qualified, homecare nurses to care for Maryland's pediatric patients, we request this committees support of House Bill 1284.



Thank you for your support of home health care and private duty nursing services in the state of Maryland. We hope that these committees will consider our request to improve Medicaid for private duty nursing services so that Maryland can compare with neighboring states and keep our skilled nursing workforce. We want to work with you to promote a better lifestyle for children and adults with complex healthcare needs in our community and continue to bring patients home by offering them the nursing services they deserve.

Sincerely,
Ade Olatilo
Area Vice President of Clinical Operations
Maxim Healthcare
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