



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

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

February 24, 2026

The Honorable Heather Bagnall
Chair, Health Committee
240 House Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401-1991

RE: HB1263 – Public Health - Workgroup on Postoperative Cosmetic Care – Letter of Concern

Dear Chair Bagnall and Committee Members:

The Maryland Department of Health (MDH), the Board of Massage Therapy Examiners, the Board of Physical Therapy Examiners, the Board of Physicians, and the Maryland Board of Nursing respectfully submits this letter of concern for HB1263 – Public Health - Workgroup on Postoperative Cosmetic Care.

MDH understands and appreciates the concerns raised by this legislation regarding the postoperative cosmetic care industry which is currently unregulated and outside the scope of MDH's existing Health Occupations Boards. But, MDH believes a Workgroup will necessitate significant staff resources to support the Workgroup while this work is already underway by the MDH Boards. MDH Workgroup members include the Secretary of Health (or designee), the President of the State Board of Nursing (or designee), the Chair of the Board of Massage Therapy Examiners (or designee), and the Chair of the Board of Physical Therapy Examiners (or designee) with staff provided by the Workgroup's governmental entities. This Workgroup will result in the expenditure of significant MDH and Board staff resources which cannot be accomplished with existing staff resources.

Previously, MDH and various Boards (Physicians, Massage Therapy, and Physical Therapy) met with the Sponsor and committed to reviewing this issue without legislation. For example, prior to the meeting with the Sponsor, the Board of Physicians reviewed this issue extensively during the interim through a meeting with CSL Therapies and a thorough documentation review to determine whether licensure by the Board of Physicians is appropriately within their charge – they determined it was not.

MDH and the undersigned Boards are committed to ensuring the health and safety of all Marylanders through the existing processes of our Health Occupations Boards including continuing to evaluate this issue and undertaking any disciplinary measures for unlicensed practice.

If you would like to discuss this further, please do not hesitate to contact Meghan Lynch, Director of Governmental Affairs at Meghan.Lynch@maryland.gov.

Sincerely,



Meena Seshamani, M.D., Ph.D
Secretary of Health
Maryland Department of Health



Sharon Oliver, MBA
Executive Director
Board of Massage Therapy Examiners



Laurie Kendall-Ellis, PT, CAE
Executive Director
Board of Physical Therapy Examiners



Harbhajan Ajrawat, M.D.
Chair
Board of Physicians



Christine Lechlitter, BSN, MBA, NE-BC
Board President
Maryland Board of Nursing












HB 1263 - Health - ORPC - LOC

Final Audit Report

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