



# Board of Physicians

*Wes Moore, Governor · Aruna Miller, Lt. Governor · Harbhajan Ajrawat, M.D., Chair*

## 2026 SESSION POSITION PAPER

**BILL NO.: House Bill 1118 - Health, Health Insurance, and Health Occupations - Perinatal Mental Health Conditions**

**COMMITTEE: Health**

**POSITION: Letter of Support As Amended**

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The Maryland Board of Physicians (the Board) is respectfully submitting this Letter of Support As Amended for House Bill (HB) 1118 - Health, Health Insurance, and Health Occupations - Perinatal Mental Health Conditions. HB 1118 would establish training, screening, referral, and patient education requirements for healthcare practitioners working in perinatal mental health. In addition, HB 1118 mandates that the Board require an applicant who works in perinatal mental health to provide satisfactory documentation of the completion of at least 2 credits of continuing education in perinatal mental health.

The Board recognizes the importance of establishing a high standard of care for perinatal mental health in Maryland and supports the bill's intent to improve the care provided. The Board appreciates and thanks Delegate White Holland for her commitment to this vital initiative.

Although there were initial concerns about unintended operational barriers, the Board has participated in a series of conversations with the sponsors and other stakeholders to address them. The Board is aware of amendments that would (1) alter the continuing education requirement to incentivize perinatal mental health continuing education, rather than require it, and (2) remove the requirements for the Department of Health to consult with the Board to develop a perinatal mental health screening program and training programs.

The Board appreciates the Delegate's willingness to collaborate on HB 1118 and attention to the Board's concerns. With the amendments, HB 1118 is operationally workable.

Thank you for your consideration. For more information, please contact Madeline DelGreco, Manager of Policy and Legislation, at 410-764-5053.

Sincerely,

Harbhajan Ajrawat, M.D.  
Chair, Maryland Board of Physicians

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