

HB1483_RichardKaplowitz_FAV

03/11/2026

Richard Keith Kaplowitz

Frederick, MD 21703

TESTIMONY ON HB#1483- POSITION: FAVORABLE

Clinical Professional Counseling - Out-of-State Providers - Use of Telehealth for Continuity of Care

TO: Chair Bagnall, Vice Chair Cullison, and members of the Health Committee

FROM: Richard Keith Kaplowitz

My name is Richard Keith Kaplowitz. I am a resident of District 3, Frederick County. I am submitting this testimony in support of HB#1483, **Clinical Professional Counseling - Out-of-State Providers - Use of Telehealth for Continuity of Care**

Johns Hopkins Medicine has acknowledged multiple benefits for telehealth: ¹

With telemedicine, you don't have to drive to the doctor's office or clinic, park, walk or sit in a waiting room when you're sick. You can see your doctor from the comfort of your own bed or sofa. Virtual visits can be easier to fit into your busy schedule.

An individual who:

- is licensed and in good standing in another state
- established a client–counselor relationship with a client outside the state
- is no longer able to provide in–person counseling to the client because the client is located in the state
- and provides the counseling through telehealth, as defined ... for the purpose of providing continuity of care to the client for not more than 6 months after the client relocated to the state; or the client returned to the state following a continuous and nonincidental period of relocation outside the state.

Said individual will not be construed to limit the scope of practice of any individual who is duly licensed for provision of that specific patient care as permitted by the state.

This bill will accomplish this by repealing the authority of the State Board of Professional Counselors and Therapists to issue a temporary telehealth license; and exempt certain State licensure requirements for certain individuals who are licensed in another state and who provide counseling through telehealth to clients in the State.

I respectfully urge this committee to return a favorable report on HB#1483.

¹ <https://www.hopkinsmedicine.org/health/treatment-tests-and-therapies/benefits-of-telemedicine#:~:text=With%20telemedicine%2C%20you%20don't,fit%20into%20your%20busy%20schedule.>