



Committee: House Judiciary Committee
Bill: HB 137 - Family Law - Child Custody Evaluators - Qualifications
Hearing Date: January 29, 2026
Position: Support

The Licensed Clinical Professional Counselors of Maryland (LCPCM) support HB 137 - Family Law - Child Custody Evaluators - Qualifications. This bill establishes parameters for who is qualified to evaluate children to advise the court in custody determinations. The bill stems from the recommendations of the Workgroup to Study Child Custody Court Proceedings Involving Child Abuse or Domestic Violence Allegations, which was established by SB 567 in the 2019 session.

We strongly support this bill because custody evaluators need to be qualified and have specific training in the subject matter. Maryland's children deserve and need competent professionals to help guide the courts.

LCPCM urges the Committee to give HB 137 a FAVORABLE Report. Please contact Andrea Mansfield at amansfield@maniscanning.com or (410)562-1617 if we can provide additional information.