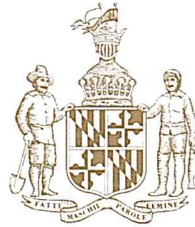


SENATOR DELORES G. KELLEY
Legislative District 10
Baltimore County

—
Chair
Finance Committee

—
Executive Nominations Committee
Rules Committee
Legislative Policy Committee



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THE SENATE OF MARYLAND
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

TESTIMONY OF SENATOR DELORES G. KELLEY

**REGARDING SENATE BILL 444 - STATE BOARD EXAMINERS OF NURSING HOME
ADMINISTRATORS - BOARD MEMBERSHIP AND PROVISIONAL LICENSING
REQUIREMENTS**

BEFORE THE SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE

ON FEBRUARY 28, 2020

Dear Mr. Vice Chairman and Members:

When there are vacancies on the State Board of Examiners of Nursing Home Administrators, the Maryland State Health Secretary is required to consult with professional associations and societies in an attempt to identify appropriate candidates for service on the State Board of Examiners of Nursing Home Administrators.

Senate Bill 444 eliminates the current requirement that limits eligibility for service on the State Board of Examiners of Nursing Home Administrators to

Page 2-Senate Bill 444

persons who get letters of recommendations from certain professional associations or societies, since many highly qualified applicants are not members of favored professional associations or societies.

Senate Bill 444 also requires that all practitioners applying for service on the State Board of Examiners have at least five years of appropriate practice experience and be actively practicing in the field nursing home administration.

In an unexpected situation in which a nursing home is without a licensed nursing home administrator (e.g., because of illness or death), the owners/senior managers shall immediately appoint an unlicensed facility employee whom they deem as capable (e.g., the director of nursing) as an interim administrator. Senate Bill 444 eliminates the automatic 90-day provisional license period in such cases to allow the State Board the flexibility to issue a provisional license for less than 90 days, if warranted.

In light of all these considerations, I urge your favorable report of Senate Bill 444.