



# Board of Physicians

Larry Hogan, Governor · Boyd K. Rutherford, Lt. Governor · Robert R. Neall, Secretary

---

## 2020 SESSION POSITION PAPER

**BILL NO.:** HOUSE BILL 1447  
**COMMITTEE:** Health and Government Operations  
**POSITION:** Information

---

**TITLE:** Department of Information Technology – Study of a Common Information Technology Platform for Health Occupations Boards

**BILL ANALYSIS:** HB 1447 requires the Department of Information Technology (DoIT) to conduct a review of information technology platforms used by the health occupation boards and make recommendations on the feasibility and cost of developing a common information technology platform; requires DoIT to report findings and recommendations to the General Assembly by December 2020; and generally relates to a common information technology platform for health occupations boards.

**POSITION AND RATIONALE:** While the Maryland Board of Physicians (the “Board”) does not oppose HB 1447, the Board has previously worked with DoIT over the course of several years to develop a new platform with an estimated cost of more than \$2 million. During the time spent planning for the DoIT project, the Board updated its own proprietary system for a fraction of the cost and subsequently withdrew funding from the DoIT project. However, during the planning phase, the Board’s IT project with DoIT was expanded to include other health occupation boards. After the Board’s withdrawal, the Maryland Board of Nursing continued the project with DoIT and the smaller boards. Much work studying workflow and business process requirements for the Board has already been completed. The Board’s internal IT system continues to be updated to reflect changes in the Board’s workflow, such as criminal history records checks and licenses issued through the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact.

The Board also revamped its website to both modernize the platform and the system, as well as increase transparency for the public. As noted in the 2016 Sunset, the Board’s transparency on sexual misconduct cases was evidenced by achieving a fifth-place ranking out of all State Medical Boards, see <http://doctors.ajc.com/states/>. The Board’s updated website went live in the fall of 2017 and is a convenient source of current practitioner data. The Board recently received kudos from the legislature on the Board’s website, and the availability of updated practitioner information.

Because of the Board's investments, in both personnel time and fiscal resources to update its system and website, if included in this review, it would be duplicative and unnecessary. Given other priorities, the Board respectfully requests to be exempt from this review.

For more information, please contact Wynne Hawk, Manager, Policy and Legislation, Maryland Board of Physicians, 410-764-3786.

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