



Board of Physicians

Larry Hogan, Governor · Boyd K. Rutherford, Lt. Governor · Damean W.E. Freas, D.O., Chair

2021 SESSION POSITION PAPER

BILL NO: SB 262 – Department of Information Technology – Study of a Common Information Technology Platform for Health Occupations Boards
COMMITTEE: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee
POSITION: Information

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

BILL ANALYSIS: Requires the Department of Information Technology (DoIT) to conduct a review of information technology platforms used by the health occupations boards and make recommendations on the feasibility and cost of developing a common information technology platform; requiring DoIT to report findings and recommendations to the General Assembly by December 2021; and generally relating to a common information technology platform for health occupations boards.

POSITION AND RATIONALE:

While the Maryland Board of Physicians (the “Board”) does not oppose SB 262, the Board requests exemption from this study given its previous expenditures and contributions to a shared system and an existing updated proprietary licensure and enforcement system that meets the Board’s current and future needs. In the alternative, if the Board is included in the study, it requests that DoIT consider the existing proprietary licensure and enforcement system as an option for a shared platform for all Health Occupations Boards.

The Board has previously worked with DoIT over the course of several years (2013–2018) to develop a new licensing and enforcement platform with an estimated cost of more than \$2 million. During the planning phase of the Board’s major IT project with DoIT, in 2016, the project was expanded to include other Health Occupations Boards to develop a shared services platform. The Board funded the contractual Project Manager/Consultant who worked with the other Health Occupations Boards that contributed to a scope of work, systems requirements analysis, and an RFP. The Board expended approximately \$500,000 on this project.

Concurrent to working with DoIT and the other Health Occupations Boards, the Board updated its own proprietary system for a fraction of the cost. The Board subsequently withdrew from the DoIT

licensing project, as the updated system met the Board's needs. After the withdrawal, the Board of Nursing continued the project with DoIT and the smaller boards. The Board's proprietary licensure and enforcement system continues to be updated to reflect changes in the Board's workflows, such as criminal history records checks and licenses issued through the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact and reciprocity.

For more information, please contact Wynee 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.