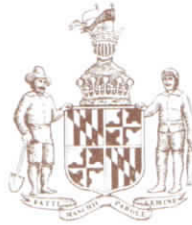


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THE SENATE OF MARYLAND
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

February 10, 2022

SB440

Commission to Study the Health Care Workforce Crisis in Maryland – Establishment

Good Afternoon Chair Pinsky, Vice Chair Kagan and Members of the Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee:

SB 440 establishes a commission to study Maryland's health care workforce crises. The commission will study the extent of the shortage, the short-term solutions, future health care workforce needs and the relationship between the Maryland Department of Health and the health occupation boards.

The Commission will consist of the following members:

- Two Members of the Senate
- Two members of the House
- The Secretary of Higher Education
- The Secretary of Health or his designee
- The State Superintendent of Schools or the designee
- The Secretary of Commerce or designee
- The Deputy Secretary of Development Disabilities or designee
- The Deputy Secretary of Public Health or designee
- The Chairman of the MD Health Care Commission or designee
- The Assistant Secretary for Workforce Development and Adult Learning
- The Executive director of each health occupations board established under the Health Occupations article.

The Chair of the Commission will be designated by the Secretary of Health and the State agencies will provide the staff.

The bill includes the areas that should be examined. SB440 is effective July 1, 2022 for a period of 2 years ending June 30, 2024; reports shall be submitted on or before December 31 each year.

Amendments have been requested to add two additional members, require the establishment of workgroups to include relevant industry stakeholders including Community College representatives and examine ways to transition active and retired military personnel to the civilian healthcare workforce.

Thank you for the opportunity to present SB440 and I respectfully request a favorable report.