



Board of Physicians

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

2022 SESSION POSITION PAPER

BILL NO.: HB 1169 – Child Abuse and Neglect – Training of Health Care Professionals
COMMITTEE: Judicial Proceedings
POSITION: Letter of Information

TITLE: Child Abuse and Neglect – Training of Health Care Professionals

POSITION & RATIONALE:

The Maryland Board of Physicians (the Board) supports the goal of House Bill (HB) 1169 to assure that child abuse and neglect is reported. The Board takes such required reporting seriously and has disciplined licensees who have violated Health Occupations Article § 14-404(a)(25). This disciplinary ground addresses a violation by a licensee who “knowingly fails to report suspected child abuse” in violation of § 5-704 of the Family Law Article.

The Board previously submitted a letter of information on HB 1169, expressing concerns about providing information about recommended courses to licensees at the time of the renewal, due to potential conflicts with Health Occupations Article § 14-316(d)(5). Since the submission of that letter, the bill sponsor has worked with the Board to address this issue. The bill sponsor’s proffered amendments, which specify the Maryland Child Abuse Medical Providers (Maryland CHAMP) as the agency recommending courses for mandated reporters, successfully address these concerns. The Board is happy to provide information about these courses on its website as required under the bill.

Thank you for your consideration. For more information, please contact Matthew Dudzic, Manager of Policy and Legislation, Maryland Board of Physicians, 410-764-5042.

Sincerely,

Damean W. E. Freas, D.O.
Chair, Maryland Board of Physicians

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