

MARYLAND ACADEMY OF NUTRITION AND DIETETICS



Date: March 24, 2022

Bill: Senate Bill 230 - Health Occupations - Service Members, Veterans, and Military Spouses - Temporary Licensure, Certification, Registration, and Permitting

Committee: House Health and Government Operations Committee
The Honorable Shane Pendergrass, Chair

Position: **Support**

The Maryland Academy of Nutrition & Dietetics represents about 1200 Registered and Licensed Dietitians/Nutritionists in the state. MAND appreciates the opportunity to comment on SB230. Licensed Registered Dietitian/Nutritionists work in many different types of facilities from hospitals to schools, supermarkets to long term care facilities. Our mission is to educate the citizens of Maryland in the health implications of good nutrition with evidenced based information.

We write in support of Senate Bill 230 - Health Occupations – Service Members, Veterans, and Military Spouses – Temporary Licensure, Certification, Registration, and Permitting.

We certainly have seen firsthand the shortage of healthcare workers especially during this pandemic. We also appreciate how those who serve us through military service must move often.

With this in mind, MAND would like to express appreciation for the Senate Committee's clarifying amendments to SB 230 to help ensure we continue to give the best care to our citizens.

- Specifically, that amendment, on Page 4 adds after 2, a new 3. EACH VALID LICENSE, CERTIFICATE, REGISTRATION, OR PERMIT HELD BY THE APPLICANT REQUIRED SUBSTANTIALLY SIMILAR QUALIFICATIONS AS THE LICENSE, CERTIFICATE, REGISTRATION, OR PERMIT FOR WHICH THE APPLICANT HAS APPLIED, AS DETERMINED BY THE HEALTH OCCUPATIONS BOARD;

We ask for your **favorable report on Senate Bill 230** and would be glad to answer any questions you may have.

Thank you for your consideration,

Susan O'Malley, MS, RD, LDN
MAND State Policy Representative

Teresa L. Turner, MS, RD, LDN, SNS, FAND
MAND President & School Nutrition Specialist