



Wes Moore, Governor · Aruna Miller, Lt. Governor · Laura Herrera Scott, M.D., M.P.H., Secretary

## MARYLAND BOARD OF PHARMACY

Jennifer L. Hardesty, PharmD, FASCP, Board President — Deena Speights-Napata, MA, Executive Director

March 9, 2023

The Honorable Joseline A. Peña-Melnyk  
Chair, House Health and Government Operations Committee  
Room 241, House Office Building  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

### **RE: House Bill 1151 – Health Insurance – Reimbursement for Services Rendered by a Pharmacist**

Dear Chair Peña-Melnyk and Committee Members:

The Maryland Board of Pharmacy (Board) respectfully submits this letter of support for House Bill (HB) 1151 – Health Insurance – Reimbursement for Services Rendered by a Pharmacist.

HB 1151 would provide coverage for services rendered by a licensed pharmacist who is acting within their lawful scope of practice to the same extent as services rendered by any other licensed health care provider, without regard to the pharmacist's employment arrangement or derivative authority granted by possession of a physician's order. §§ 15-151, 15-716.

Currently a Maryland-licensed pharmacist is only guaranteed reimbursement for patient assessment and administering a (1) self-administered medication, (2) maintenance injectable medication, and (3) injectable medication for the treatment of sexually transmitted infections, and (4) patient assessment and ultimately prescribing a contraceptive. §§ 15-148(c), 15-716(a).

While the Board focuses its efforts on licensure, discipline, inspections, and compliance, it can not escape the business component of the practice of pharmacy. Reimbursement for services rendered will encourage pharmacy operators and pharmacists to provide and enhance services that promote public health. Additionally, reimbursement for services provided may encourage pharmacists to continue in the profession for an additional number of years or entice new applicants to pursue a career in pharmacy. Maintaining an adequate number of licensed pharmacists in Maryland is imperative to the provision of health care services in hospitals, nursing homes, outpatient clinics, and local health departments.

The Board respectfully requests a favorable report on HB 1151.

If you would like to discuss this further, please do not hesitate to contact Deena Speights-Napata, MA, Executive Director at [deena.speights-napata@maryland.gov](mailto:deena.speights-napata@maryland.gov) or (410) 764-4753.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Deena".

Deena Speights-Napata, MA  
Executive Director