



**Committee:** Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee

**Bill:** Senate Bill 365 - Family Law - Child Custody Evaluators - Qualifications and Training

**Hearing Date:** February 8, 2024

**Position:** Support

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The Licensed Clinical Professional Counselors of Maryland (LCPCM) supports *Senate Bill 365 - Family Law - Child Custody Evaluators - Qualifications and Training*. The bill establishes parameters for who is qualified to evaluate children to advise the court in custody determinations. The bill stems from the recommendations of the Workgroup to Study Child Custody Court Proceedings Involving Child Abuse or Domestic Violence Allegations, which was established by SB 567 in the 2019 session.

We strongly support this bill because custody evaluators need to be qualified and have specific training in the subject matter. Maryland's children deserve and need competent professionals to help guide the courts.

We ask for a favorable report on the legislation. If we can provide any further information, please contact Robyn Elliott at [relliott@policypartners.net](mailto:relliott@policypartners.net) or (443) 926-3443.