

MARYLAND BOARD OF NURSING 2023 LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY

During the 2023 Maryland General Assembly session, legislators considered more than 2,000 bills and resolutions. The Maryland Board of Nursing (the Board) reviewed and prioritized bills each week, focusing on legislation that impacted the Board's mission, operations, licensees, or certificate holders. Below is a snapshot of passed bills that have the most impact.

ENACTED BILLS

House Bill (HB) 278 ([Chapter 328](#))/ Senate Bill (SB) 213 ([Chapter 327](#)) Health Occupations - Clinical Nurse Specialists - Prescribing, effective October 1, 2023. This bill defines "clinical nurse specialist" and "practice as a clinical nurse specialist" for the purpose of authorizing clinical nurse specialists to prescribe drugs and durable medical equipment under regulations adopted by the State Board of Nursing; designates a clinical nurse specialist as an "authorized prescriber" under the Maryland Pharmacy Act; and authorizes a licensed physician to personally prepare and dispense a prescription written by a clinical nurse specialist.

House Bill (HB) 454 ([Chapter 376](#))/ Senate Bill (SB) 187 ([Chapter 375](#)) Health Occupations - Licenses, Certificates, and Registrations - Lawful Presence and Identification Numbers, effective October 1, 2023. This bill prohibits a health occupations board from requiring that an applicant provide proof that the applicant is lawfully present in the United States or have a Social Security number or Individual Taxpayer Identification Number as a condition for licensure, certification, or registration; requires each health occupations board to require each applicant for a license to disclose the Social Security number or Individual Taxpayer Identification Number of the applicant or, as permitted by federal law, provide alternative documentation; etc.

House Bill (HB) 611 ([Chapter 222](#))/ Senate Bill (SB) 960 ([Chapter 223](#)) State Board of Nursing – Sunset Extension, Licensure Exceptions, and Board Operations and Membership, effective April 24, 2023. This bill continues the State Board of Nursing in accordance with the provisions of the Maryland Program Evaluation Act (sunset law) by extending to July 1, 2025, the termination provisions relating to the statutory and regulatory authority of the Board; alters the exceptions to the registered nursing and licensed practical nurse licensure requirements; provides that, for a certain period of time, the Secretary of Health, rather than the Board, has authority over the infrastructure operations of the Board; etc.

House Bill (HB) 636 ([Chapter 107](#)) Public Information Act - Inspection of E-Mail Addresses and Telephone Numbers, effective October 1, 2023. This bill alters the definition of "personal information" for purposes of certain provisions of the Public Information Act to include an individual's personal e-mail address; requires certain custodians to deny inspection of certain records of personal e-mail addresses and telephone numbers except under certain circumstances; and requires certain custodians to allow inspection of certain records of business e-mail addresses under the same circumstances as inspection of certain records of business addresses and telephone numbers.

House Bill (HB) 717 ([Chapter 368](#))/ Senate Bill (SB) 772 ([Chapter 367](#)) State Board of Nursing - Peer Advisory Committees, Scopes of Practice, and Licensure Requirements, effective October 1, 2023. This bill authorizes the State Board of Nursing to appoint peer advisory committees to provide advice related to midwifery; authorizes registered nurses certified as nurse-midwives and licensed certified midwives to personally prepare and dispense a starter dosage of certain drugs under certain circumstances; alters the exceptions to the certified midwifery licensure requirement and the qualifications required for a license; etc.

House Bill (HB) 808 ([Chapter 247](#))/ Senate Bill (SB) 859 ([Chapter 246](#)) Reproductive Health Protection Act, effective June 1, 2023. This bill prohibits a judge from requiring a person to give certain testimony or a statement or to produce evidence for a case involving an alleged violation of the criminal law of another state relating to health care that is legally protected in the State; prohibits a judge from issuing an ex parte order to intercept certain communication for the purpose of investigating or recovering evidence related to legally protected health care, subject to a certain exception; prohibits health occupations boards from disciplining a health care practitioner or applicant because of certain actions relating to legally protected health care subject to certain exceptions; etc.