

Maryland State Board of Examiners of Psychologists

Open Board Meeting Minutes – February 04, 2022

The 668th Administrative Meeting of the Maryland Board of Examiners of Psychologists was called to order at 9:04 a.m. by the Chairperson, Crystal Barksdale, Ph.D.

Board Members Present:

Samantha Rukert, Psy.D., Vice-Chairperson
Stephen Bono, Ph.D.
Shelley M. McDermott, Ph.D.
Reginald Nettles, Ph.D., CGP
Raj Razdan, Consumer Member
Kimberly A. Sanschagrin, J.D., Ph.D.
Zeno St. Cyr, II, Consumer Member
Brenda L. Terry-Leonard, Ph.D.

Staff Present:

Lorraine Smith, Executive Director
Stephanie Coley, Licensing Coordinator
Patricia Morris English, Board Investigator
Brett Felter AAG, Board Counsel

Public Present:

Jessica Rothstein, Psy.D. – Maryland Psychological Association (MPA) Member at Large

Board meeting was held via teleconference.

A. Minutes

Minutes of the Open Meeting held on December 03, 2021 were reviewed. **A motion was made, seconded and unanimously carried to accept the minutes as submitted.**

B. Announcements

Executive Director- The list of registrants for the February law exam was reviewed. **A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously carried to approve the list and others who may register later.**

SB 0195 – State Board of Examiners of Psychologists – Sunset Extension – The Bill continues the State Board of Examiners of Psychologists in accordance with the provisions of the Maryland Program Evaluation Act (sunset law) by extending the Board's existence to July 1, 2033. During the voting session, a Senator brought up the audit findings of all of the Boards. However, the psychology board was not specifically named in the audit and recommended extending the three Boards that had sunset hearings to extend for two years, until July 1, 2025, instead of ten years, and asked that the Boards provide a report on the audit findings. The Boards were not given an opportunity to provide any information or answer questions. The Boards continuously work with the Office of Internal Controls and Audit Compliance, implementing corrective actions to remedy the cited issues and providing quarterly progress reports to the Office of Internal Controls and Audit Compliance. The Boards immediately provided the report to the Senate; however, the report was not taken into consideration. The report will be provided to the House of Delegates, and the Boards will ask to be present to answer any questions during

the voting session. The Board thanked Linda Mcghee, Psy.D., J.D., President of MPA, for supporting the Bill.

HB 0421 – Out-of-State Health Care Practitioners- Provision of Behavioral Health Services via Telehealth-Authorization – The Bill authorizes a health care practitioner who is not licensed in Maryland to provide behavioral health services via telehealth to a patient in Maryland under certain circumstances.

HB 0407 – Health Occupations- Health Care Staffing Shortage Emergency- Declaration and Licensing and Practice Requirements (Health Care Heroes Act of 2022) – The Bill authorizes the Secretary of Health to declare a health care staffing shortage emergency in Maryland and requires each health occupations board to establish processes for the issuance of initial licenses, temporary licenses, and temporary practice letters on an expedited basis during a health care staffing shortage emergency.

SB0077 – Health Occupations Boards – Investigations- Right to Counsel authorizes a licensee or certificate holder to be represented by counsel during an investigation that may result in charges or sanctions and authorizes a licensee or certificate holder to have counsel present at any interview conducted by the health occupations board during an investigation.

SB0440 – Commission to Study the Health Care Workforce Crisis in Maryland – Establishment. The Bill will establish a Commission to examine the role of the Boards and the relationship between the Maryland Department of Health and the health occupations boards and require the Commission to report its finding and recommendations to certain committees of the General Assembly by December 31 each year.

SB 0899 - Health Occupations – Authority Over Staffing and Infrastructure Operation gives the Secretary of Health authority over the infrastructure operations of all health occupations boards and commissions; alters the method of selecting officers for health occupations boards, specifies the term of the president/chair; establishes procedures for the filling of certain vacancies on certain health occupations boards in consultation with the Boards; appoint the Executive Director of the Board and set compensation of employees of the health occupations boards and commissions.

The Board member training is rescheduled for March 4, 2022. It will be a closed Board training.

C. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

D. Administrative Session/Adjournment

A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously carried to enter into closed session to discuss disciplinary matters and to consult with Counsel. The open meeting was closed at 10:09 a.m. unless recused those attending the open session remained for the Administrative Session.