

Maryland State Board of Examiners of Psychologists

Open Board Meeting Minutes – April 5, 2024

The 715th Open Meeting of the Maryland Board of Examiners of Psychologists was called to order at 9:03 a.m. by Vice-Chairperson Shelley M. McDermott, Ph.D.

Board Members Present:

Raj Razdan, Consumer Member
Samantha Rukert, Psy.D.
Kimberly A. Sanschagrin, J.D., Ph.D.
Zeno St. Cyr. II, MPH Consumer Member
Sybil Smith-Gray, Ph.D.

Board Member Absent:

Brenda L. Terry-Leonard, Ph.D., Chairperson
Stephen Bono, Ph.D.
Reginald Nettles, Ph.D., CGP

Staff Present:

Lorraine Smith, MPH, Executive Director
Tamika Davis, Licensing Coordinator, Deputy Director
Patricia Morris English, Board Investigator
Thinh Nguyen, Board Database Specialist
Brett Felter AAG, Board Counsel

Public Present

Marta Genovez
Lillian Reese- Legislative MDH
Zakiyyah Homles-MDH
Andrea Chisolm- MPA member at large

Board meeting was held via teleconference.

A. Minutes

Minutes of the Open Meeting held on February 2, 2024, were reviewed. **A motion was made, seconded, and a vote was called to accept the minutes: For- 6: Abstention - 2**

B. Announcements

Ms. Smith reported that the 2024 renewal period closed on March 31, 2024. However, the online renewal system will remain open until April 15, 2024, for those who had their background checks performed by March 31; however, the office has not received the results due to a delay at CJIS. Approximately 1700 licensed psychologists and 200 registered psychology associates were scheduled to renew, and most people have. A report will be forthcoming.

Ms. Smith provided the following legislative updates.

SB 241 State Board of Examiners of Psychologists - Sunset Extension - Passed with an amendment to extend Board for five years instead of three.

SYNOPSIS: Continues the State Board of Examiners of Psychologists in accordance with the provisions of the Maryland Program Evaluation Act (sunset law) by extending to **July 1, 2030**, the termination provisions relating to the statutory and regulatory authority of the Board.

SB 3 Health Occupations - Service Members, Veterans, and Military Spouses - Temporary Licensure, Certification, Registration, and Permitting – No movement.

SYNOPSIS: Requiring health occupations boards to issue an expedited temporary license, certificate, registration, or permit to a service member, veteran, or military spouse who meets certain requirements; requiring each health occupations board to include a check-off box prominently on each license, certification, or registration application form; requiring the Maryland Department of Health to publish prominently on its website information about the expedited licensing process and any assistance provided; etc.

HB 146/SB 221 Health Occupations Boards – Reciprocal Licensure and Certification – Passed

SYNOPSIS: Authorizing certain health occupations boards to adopt regulations (may adopt for other boards) establishing reciprocity for individuals licensed or certified in another state. (applies to Boards that do not already have statutory authority to issue licenses by other means)

HB 93 Landlord and Tenant - Termination of Residential Lease - Limitation of Liability for Rent – Passed

Purpose: Limiting a tenant's liability for rent to no more than 2 months' rent after the date on which the tenant vacates a leased premises if a physician, counselor, therapist, or psychologist completes a form specifying that the tenant has an intellectual or developmental disability or mental disorder, the management of which is substantially limited by the leased premises.

HB 175/SB 54 Occupational Licensing and Certification – Criminal History – Prohibited Disclosures and Predetermination Review Process – No movement.

SYNOPSIS: prohibition on certain departments of State government from denying an occupational license or certificate to an applicant solely on the basis of the criminal history of the applicant by prohibiting a department from requiring disclosure of certain actions on an application and establishing a predetermination review process; authorizing a department to change a criminal history review fee of no more than \$100 or to waive the fee under certain circumstances; etc.

HB 642/SB 1185 Apprenticeships in Licensed Occupations Act of 2024 - Withdrawn.

SYNOPSIS: Requiring professional and occupational regulatory boards to issue licenses, certifications, and registrations to individuals who complete an apprenticeship program.

C. Committee Reports

Licensure– The committee met on January 5, 2024, and discussed ways to make the licensing application user-friendly. The committee plans to meet in May.

Legislation/Regulation – The committee met on January 5, 2024, and discussed possible changes to the telepsychology regulations with post-covid in mind. The committee plans to meet in May.

Disciplinary – The committee met on January 5, 2024, and continues to examine ways to make the complaint form more efficient.

Public Relations – The committee continues to gather articles for the spring/summer newsletter.

D. Public Comment

Dr. Chislom asked about continuing education sponsors and was directed to COMAR regulations on Continuing Education (CE). During the 2025 renewal period, CE requirements will revert back to pre-covid requirements outlined in the CE regulations. The question on the renewal form, *Are you licensed, certified, or registered by any governmental agency or government board in any state, county, or jurisdiction*, will be revised and made clearer.

E. Administrative Session/Adjournment

A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously carried out to enter a closed session and open a closed public session to engage in medical Review Committee deliberations of confidential matters contained in licensure applications by General Provisions, Article section 3-305 B13. The open meeting was closed at 9: 27 a.m. unless those attending the open session remained for the closed session.