

April 25, 2023

Megan Williams, DNP, FNP-C, FAANP Interim CEO

The Honorable Sarah McBride 411 Legislative Ave. Dover, DE 19901

RE: Support for Senate Bill 80, Immigration Status for Licenses

Dear Senator McBride,

Nemours Children's Health Mark Mumford, Executive Vice President Chief Executive, Nemours Delaware Valley Operations

Bayhealth
Terry Murphy,
President & CEO

Beebe Healthcare David A. Tam, MD, MBA, President & CEO

ChristianaCare
Janice E. Nevin,
MD, MPH
President & CEO

TidalHealth Nanticoke
Penny Short, MSM, BSN,
RN
President & CEO

Saint Francis Hospital Christopher Cullom, MSHA, MBA President, Saint Francis Hospital

Delaware Healthcare Association Megan Williams, DNP, FNP-C, FAANP Interim CEO Thank you for the opportunity to comment on Senate Bill 80. The Delaware Healthcare Association supports this bill.

SB 80 codifies the current practice in Delaware of not requiring proof of citizenship or a specific immigration status on an application for a professional license. DHA supports this bill as a step to encourage more Delawareans to pursue professional careers, including in the healthcare workforce.

The healthcare sector was already experiencing a workforce shortage prior to COVID-19, but the pandemic further exacerbated our workforce challenge as more workers left the profession. As our population ages, their healthcare needs will increase, and more caregivers will be needed than ever before. This is felt acutely in Delaware, as we are the 5th oldest state in the nation. Without policies and strategies to bring more workers into the pipeline, these challenges will only continue to get worse.

Thank you again for the opportunity to comment. DHA supports SB 80 and looks forward to working with you and the members of the General Assembly to advance this important legislation.

Sincerely,
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Megan Williams, DNP, FNP-C, FAANP

Interim CEO

DHA represents hospitals and health care delivery systems in Delaware and provides policy and advocacy leadership in creating an excellent environment to support our members in helping every Delawarean to be as healthy as they can be.