



February 13, 2018

To: The Honorable Joan Carter Conway, Chair
Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee
Maryland Senate

-and-

The Honorable Shane E. Pendergrass, Chair
Health and Government Operations Committee
Maryland House of Delegates

From: Sabita Persaud, PhD, RN, APHN-BC, President
Maryland Board of Nursing -and-
Members of the Maryland Board of Nursing

Re: **Annual Report to the Senate Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs
Committee and the House Health and Government Operations Committee required
by Maryland Code Annotated, Health Occupations Article § 8-6C-12(c)**

Dear Senator Conway and Delegate Pendergrass,

The Maryland Board of Nursing (the "Board") submits this report to the Senate Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs ("EHEA") *Committee and the House Health and Government Operations ("HGO") Committee* as required by Maryland Code Annotated, Health Occupations Article ("HO") § 8-6C-12(c), which provides:

Beginning December 1, 2016, and on each December 1 thereafter, the Board shall submit to the Senate Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee and the House Health and Government Operations Committee, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State Government Article:

- (1) The report submitted to the Board [by the Direct-Entry Midwifery Advisory Committee] under subsection (a)(10) of this section;

Maryland Board of Nursing Annual Report to the Senate Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee and the House Health and Government Operations Committee, as required by Md. Code Ann., Health Occupations § 8-6C-12(c)

- (2) In consultation with the [Direct-Entry Midwifery Advisory] Committee, any recommendations regarding the continuation and improvement of the licensure of licensed direct-entry midwives in the State;
- (3) Any recommendations regarding expanding the scope of practice of licensed direct-entry midwives; and
- (4) Any recommendations, including recommendations for legislation, regarding the scope of practice of licensed direct-entry midwives to include vaginal birth after cesarean.

On November 15, 2017, a copy of the Direct-Entry Midwifery Advisory Committee's annual report to the Board was forwarded to the Senate EHEA Committee and to the House HGO Committee. Since that time, the Direct-Entry Midwifery Advisory Committee (the "DEM Advisory Committee") has revised its annual report. The DEM Advisory Committee's revised annual report was presented to the Board at its monthly meeting on January 24, 2018. Pursuant to HO § 8-6C-12(c)(1), attached please find a copy of the DEM Advisory Committee's revised annual report to the Board.

You will note that the DEM Advisory Committee's revised annual report contains the Committee's recommendations with respect to the items listed under HO § 8-6C-12(c)(2)-(4) (reprinted above). The Board reviewed those recommendations at its January 24, 2018 meeting and voted to adopt the Committee's recommendations without amendment. However, the Board would like to emphasize that its support of any legislation advanced by the Association of Independent Midwives of Maryland, Inc. during the 2018 legislative session is only with respect to "technical, clean-up, non-substantive revisions to the Maryland Licensure of Direct-Entry Midwives Act," as stated in the DEM Advisory Committee's revised annual report.

If there are any questions related to this report, or to the DEM Advisory Committee's revised annual report, please feel free to contact me at mdbon.persaud@maryland.gov. You may also contact the Board's Executive Director, Karen E.B. Evans, at karene.evans@maryland.gov or by telephone at 410-585-1914.

Sincerely,



Sabita Persaud, PhD, RN, APHN-BC, President
Maryland Board of Nursing -and-
Members of the Maryland Board of Nursing

Maryland Board of Nursing Annual Report to the Senate Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee and the House Health and Government Operations Committee, as required by Md. Code Ann., Health Occupations § 8-6C-12(c)

Cc: The Honorable Thomas V. Mike Miller Jr., President
Michael E. Busch, Speaker of the House
Sarah Albert, Department of Legislative Service

Enclosure: Direct-Entry Midwifery Advisory Committee Revised Annual Report to the Maryland Board of Nursing, dated December 8, 2017 (3 pages)

STATE OF MARYLAND



MARYLAND BOARD OF NURSING
4140 PATTERSON AVENUE
BALTIMORE, MARYLAND 21215-2254

(410) 585-1900 (410) 358-3530 FAX
(410) 585-1978 AUTOMATED VERIFICATION
1-888-202-9861 TOLL FREE

December 8, 2017

To: Sabita Persaud, PhD, RN, APHN-BC, President
Maryland Board of Nursing -and-
Members of the Maryland Board of Nursing

From: The Direct-Entry Midwifery Advisory Committee

Re: Annual Report to the Maryland Board of Nursing required by
Maryland Code Annotated, Health Occupations Article § 8-6C-12(a)(10) & (b)

The Direct-Entry Midwifery Advisory Committee ("the Committee") within the
Maryland Board of Nursing ("the Board") submits this report to the Board as required by
Maryland Code Annotated, Health Occupations Article ("Health Occ.") § 8-6C-12 (a)(10) & (b),
which provides:

Subject to subsection (b) of this section, beginning November 1, 2016, and
on each November 1 thereafter, submit a report to the Board, including:

- (i) A summary of the information included in reports submitted to the
Committee by licensed direct-entry midwives under § 8-6C-10(a)
of this subtitle; and
(ii) Any other information identified by the Board.
(b) The Committee may not include any personally identifying information
in the report submitted to the Board under subsection (a)(10) of this section.

COMMITTEE REPORT TO THE BOARD

The Board commenced licensing direct-entry midwives in January 2017. To date there
are 11 licensed direct-entry midwives practicing in Maryland. Originally, it was thought there
would be 24-30 persons seeking such licensure but that has not been the case. For purposes of
this report, the data collection required in Health Occ. § 8-6C- 12 is data from January 1, 2017
through June 30, 2017. Next year's data will provide a more comprehensive overview of the
direct-entry midwives activities in this State.

The data below is data collected from initial licensees from January, 2017 through June
30, 2017, where the intended place of birth at the onset of care was an out-of-hospital setting.

- (1) The total number of patients served as primary caregiver at onset of care: 59

Direct-Entry Midwife Advisory Committee Annual Report to the Maryland Board of Nursing required by Maryland Code Annotated, Health Occupations Article § 8-6C-12(a)(10) & (b)

Of this number, 2 were in Pennsylvania and 25 remained in care at the end of the data collection period.

(2) The number by County of live births attended as primary caregivers: **Total 32**

Anne Arundel County	3
Carroll County	1
Cecil County	1
Baltimore City	6
Baltimore County	9
Frederick County	5
Harford County	2
Howard County	1
Montgomery County	2
Prince Georges County	1
St. Mary's County	1

(3) The number by County of fetal demise, infant deaths, and maternal deaths attended by primary caregiver at the discovery of the demise or death: **1 - Baltimore City**

(4) The number of women whose primary care was transferred to another health care practitioner, during the antepartum period and the reason for transfers: **3 - Patient's request**

(5) The number, reason for, and outcome of each non-emergency hospital transfer during the intrapartum or postpartum period: **3 - Suspected intrauterine growth restriction or macrosomia; multiple gestation; and client request for pain management. Outcome: Positive for all.**

(6) The number, reason for, and outcome of each urgent or emergency transport of an expectant mother in the antepartum period: **0**

(7) The number, reason for, and outcome of each urgent or emergency transport of an infant or mother during the intrapartum or immediate postpartum period: **1 - Mother had uncontrolled postpartum hemorrhaging which was resolved. Outcome: Healthy newborn delivered.**

(8) The number of planned out-of-hospital births at the onset of labor and the number of births completed in an out-of-hospital setting: **34 - Planned; 33 - Home deliveries; 1 - Miscarriage.**

(9) A brief description of any complications resulting in the morbidity or mortality of a mother or neonate. **There was 1 fetal demise at term diagnosed at onset of labor and confirmed on transfer to hospital. The case was peer reviewed by the state midwifery association.**

Direct-Entry Midwife Advisory Committee Annual Report to the Maryland Board of Nursing required by Maryland Code Annotated, Health Occupations Article § 8-6C-12(a)(10) & (b)

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

In accordance with Health Occ. § 8-6C-12(c)(2), (3) & (4), the Committee offers the following recommendations for the Board's consideration and inclusion in the Board's required report to the Senate Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee and the House Health and Government Operations Committee:

(1) The Committee recommends that all Certified Professional Midwives who are currently or will be practicing in Maryland immediately seek licensure as a Direct-Entry Midwife.

(2) The Committee does not recommend expansion of the scope of practice of Licensed Direct-Entry Midwives to include vaginal birth after cesarean at this time.

(3) The professional association (Association of Independent Midwives of Maryland, Inc.) for Licensed Direct-Entry Midwives may introduce legislation during the 2018 legislative session, which will consist of technical, clean-up, non-substantive revisions to the Maryland Licensure of Direct-Entry Midwives Act, Maryland Code Annotated, Health Occupations §§ 8-6C-01 to 8-6C-26. The Committee requests the Board's support for this legislative initiative because there was a need for correction of typographical errors and clarification of certain portions of the Act.

Please feel free to notify the Committee if the Board has questions or needs additional information about this report and recommendations.