

Virginia Board of Psychology
Board Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, February 27, 2024, at 10:00 a.m.
9960 Mayland Drive, Henrico, VA 23233
Board Room 4

PRESIDING OFFICER: J.D. Ball. Ph.D.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Aliya Chapman, Ph.D.
Norma Murdock-Kitt, Ph.D.
Christine Payne, BSN, MBA, Citizen Member
Gary Sibcy, Ph.D., (*attended virtually – scheduling conflict*)
Danielle Spearman-Camblard, Psy.D.
Susan Brown Wallace, Ph.D.
Cheryl Snyder, Citizen Member

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: William Hathaway, Ph.D.

BOARD STAFF PRESENT: Jaime Hoyle, JD, Executive Director
Jennifer Lang, Deputy Executive Director
Charlotte Lenart, Deputy Executive Director
Meagan Ohlsson, Licensing Supervisor

DHP STAFF PRESENT: Erin Barrett, JD, Director of Legislative and Regulatory Affairs, Department of Health Professions
James Jenkins, RN, Agency Deputy Director, Special Advisor to the Governor on Workforce
Matt Novak, Policy & Economic Analyst, Department of Health Professions
Arne Owens, Agency Director, Department of Health Professions

BOARD COUNSEL PRESENT: James Rutkowski, Assistant Attorney General

CALL TO ORDER: Dr. Ball called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.

MISSION STATEMENT: Dr. Ball read the mission statement of the Department of Health Professions and the emergency egress procedures.

ESTABLISHMENT OF A QUORUM: With eight members present a quorum was established.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA: The agenda was rearranged to move the presentation from ASPPB to 11:00 a.m. to allow DHP staff time return from the General Assembly.

PUBLIC ATTENDEES:

Mary Ottinot, RN
Tiffany Anderson, Psy.D.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Ms. Ottinot discussed a personal situation that she experienced. Dr. Ball thanked Ms. Ottinot for her public comment.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion: Ms. Payne motioned, which was properly seconded by Dr. Wallace, to approve the minutes from the December 05, 2023, Quarterly Board meeting as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

AGENCY DIRECTOR REPORT:

Mr. Owens provided the following information:

- HB 1499 appears to be moving forward without changes. Mr. Owens thanked the Board for their hard work on the master's level license.
- Mr. Owens indicated there was a lot of discussion regarding the shortages in nursing, primary care, and behavioral health workforces and how to retain and recruit more professionals to Virginia.
- SB 403, Board of Counseling, will lead to expanding opportunities in the workforce.
- Impact Makers continues to work through DHP's licensing process to streamline and recommend improvements.

BOARD CHAIR REPORT:

Dr. Ball, Dr. Hathaway and Ms. Lenart attended the Master's Accreditation Townhall presentation from the American Psychological Association (APA). The Commission on Accreditation provided an overview and timeline of the initial accreditation process. Dr. Ball summarized the main elements of APA's work to date.

Dr. Ball provided a brief overview of legislative proposed changes and indicated the Regulatory Committee will meet March 25, 2024, to further discuss proposed regulations for the psychological practitioner, now to be enabled by HB 1499 if this bill becomes law.

Dr. Ball thanked Dr. Chapman for her work with The Association of State and Provincial Psychology Boards (ASPPB) regarding the implementation of the EPPP Part 2 examination.

PRESENTATION:

Hao Song, PhD, ICE-CCP, Associate Executive Officer of Examination Services, ASPPB and Alex Siegal, J.D., PhD, ASPPB (*attending remotely*)

Dr. Ball welcomed Dr. Song and Dr. Siegal for their attendance and information regarding the implementation of the EPPP Part 2 examination. Dr. Ball addressed the Virginia Board's request to allow students to take part one during their doctoral program and take part two when they have completed their clinical experience. Dr. Ball noted that internal logistics in Virginia currently require test applicants to be licensure applicants and prevent us from keeping the licensure process open for a year or more between the administration of EPPP parts I and II. Dr. Siegal communicated that ASPPB is actively working on a mechanism to map the process while addressing the Board's concerns, hopefully by administering the exam

through ASPPB. The presenters informed the Board that more information will be available at ASPPB's mid-year meeting and also suggested that the Board consider the cutoff for Masters level applicants suggested by ASSPB.

**LEGISLATIVE AND
REGULATORY REPORT:**

Chart of Regulatory Actions

Mr. Novak gave the regulatory report.

Ms. Barrett reviewed with the Board the legislative report for the Board of Psychology as of February 26, 2024. See attachment "A".

Ms. Barrett reviewed the proposed implementation for the master level license by 2025. Ms. Barrett stated one full time licensing position was tied to the legislation.

STAFF REPORTS:

Executive Director's Report:

Ms. Hoyle thanked staff and detailed the staff's outreach activities. Ms. Hoyle and Ms. Lenart plan to attend the ASPPB Mid-Year meeting in April.

Ms. Hoyle informed the Board that she had attended committee meetings for the ASPPB and PSYPACT. She is on the ASPPB Model Act and Regulation Committee (MARC) which continues to meet monthly and make recommendations to the Executive Committee to update the Model Act and the Code of Conduct. She also attended two PSYPACT finance committee meetings and chaired the PSYPACT compliance committee meeting. She informed the Board that they were in compliance for Quarter 3. The Committee addressed a rise in non-compliance for the previous quarter due to jurisdictions failing to post information on their websites regarding PSYPACT rule changes. The Committee is going to recommend that jurisdictions provide a link on their websites to the PSYPACT website. By doing this, Boards will be linking to real-time information and not subject to being out of compliance for not posting information in time. She indicated that we will be working in the coming months to update our website.

Discipline Report:

Ms. Lang referenced the discipline report included in the agenda.

Additionally, she reported that the Board of Psychology received 124 completed investigations in calendar year 2023. Since 2020, the cases for the Board of Psychology have decreased by 6%.

Discipline cases are processed by two full-time staff members who also manage cases for the Boards of Counseling and Social Work. Collectively, the three behavioral science boards received 724 new cases in 2023, a 31% increase in since 2020. If pending General Assembly bills are passed, creating new license types for the Boards of Psychology and Counseling, the discipline cases are expected to increase significantly. Ms. Lang advised that, due to the volume of discipline cases, Christy Evans has assumed additional responsibilities, including leading informal conferences. Moving forward, additional discipline staff will be necessary

to continue to move cases through the process within reasonable timeframes. Ms. Lang will keep the board updated on any staffing changes.

Ms. Evans plans to attend the VACP Spring Conference in April.

Licensing Report:

Ms. Lenart provided the licensing report included in the agenda starting on page 17. The Board has a little over 6,000 licenses, certification holders and registrants. Board staff is currently reviewing applications within 48 hours and continue to receive positive satisfactory results.

Ms. Lenart is coordinating the Behavioral Sciences Boards Business Process Engineering efforts with IMPACT Makers. Impact Makers was hired by the Agency to review and study each Boards' processes and to provide suggestions to improve efficiencies. They have identified several areas for staff to concentrate on that will improve the way we process applications, decreasing processing time and increasing the customer service and applicant experience with the Board. Ms. Lenart is looking forward to making positive changes to the licensing process.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Regulatory Committee Report:

Dr. Chapman reported on the Regulatory Committee's discussions and action.

Dr. Chapman discussed the ASPPB's presentation. She also indicated that she would like the applicants' doctoral program heads to approve the exam instead of the board. It is not feasible for the board to handle testing.

Dr. Chapman reviewed with the board proposed changes to Guidance Document 125-3.1. See attachment "B".

Motion: Dr. Ball motioned, which was properly seconded by Dr. Wallace, to amend the language of Guidance Document 125-3.1 as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

NEXT MEETING DATE:

The next full Board meeting is scheduled for May 14, 2024.

ADJOURNMENT:

Dr. Ball adjourned the meeting at 12:36 p.m.

J.D. Ball, Ph.D., Chair Chairperson

Date

Jaime Hoyle, JD, Executive Director

Date

ATTACHMENT A
Legislative Report
Board of Psychology Week of February 26, 2024

HB 181 School counselors; decreases public school staffing ratios.

Chief patron: Feggans

DEAD BILL

Summary as introduced:

Public school staffing ratios; school counselors. Decreases from one to 325 to one to 250 the ratio of full-time equivalent school counselors required to be employed by each local school board per student enrolled in the local school division.

01/17/24 House: Reported from Education (17-Y 4-N)

01/18/24 House: Assigned App. sub: Elementary & Secondary

Education **02/05/24 House: Subcommittee recommends**

continuing to 2025 02/07/24 House: Continued to 2025 in

Appropriations

HB 224 Public schools; mental health awareness training.

Chief patron: Henson

Summary as passed House:

Public schools; teachers and other relevant personnel; mental health awareness training. Requires each teacher and other relevant personnel, as determined by the applicable school board, employed on a full-time basis to complete mental health awareness training that addresses the needs of youth populations that are at a high risk of experiencing mental health challenges and disorders. Current law requires such teachers and personnel to complete mental health awareness training but does not contain any requirements relating to the specific topics such training must address.

01/23/24 House: Subcommittee recommends reporting with substitute (7-

Y 1-N) 01/24/24 House: Reported from Education with substitute (13-Y

8-N)

01/30/24 House: VOTE: Passage (62-Y 36-N)

02/14/24 Senate: Assigned Education and Health Sub: Public Education

[HB 1294](#) Psychological practitioners; establishes a licensing procedure.

Chief patron: Willett

DEAD BILL BECAUSE INCORPORATED INTO HB1499

Summary as introduced:

Board of Psychology; psychological practitioners; licensure. Establishes a licensing procedure by the Board of Psychology for a psychological practitioner as defined in the bill. The bill directs the Board to adopt emergency regulations to implement the provisions of the bill.

02/07/24 House: Subcommittee recommends striking from docket (8-Y 0-N)
02/13/24 House: Left in Health and Human Services

[HB 1326](#) **Nationally Certified School Psychologist Program; established.**

Chief patron: Taylor

DEAD BILL

Summary as introduced:

Nationally Certified School Psychologist Program established; incorporation into National Teacher Certification Incentive Reward Program Fund. Establishes the Nationally Certified School Psychologist Program, incorporates such program into the existing National Teacher Certification Incentive Reward Program Fund and renames such fund as the National Teacher Certification Incentive Reward Program and Nationally Certified School Psychologist Program Fund, and permits such fund to be used to award incentive grants to school psychologists employed in the public schools of the Commonwealth obtaining national certification from the National Association of School Psychologists consisting of an initial state-funded award of \$5,000 and a subsequent award of \$2,500 each year for the life of the certificate.

01/29/24 House: Subcommittee recommends laying on the table (6-Y 0-N)
02/13/24 House: Left in Appropriations

[HB 1499](#) **Virginia Health Workforce Development Authority; increases ex officio members, etc., report.**

Chief patron: Willett

Summary as passed House:

Virginia Health Workforce Development Authority. Modifies the enabling legislation for the Virginia Health Workforce Development Authority by adding four additional ex officio members to the Authority's Board of Directors, adding setting priorities for and managing graduate medical education programs to the duties of the Authority, specifying additional recipients of the Board's biennial report, and authorizing the Authority to partner with other agencies and institutions to obtain and manage health workforce data. The bill directs the Board of Nursing to add or remove certain educational requirements for members of the nursing faculty in specified nursing education programs and establishes a licensing procedure by the Board of Psychology for a psychological practitioner, as defined by the bill. The bill directs the Board of Nursing and the Board of Psychology to adopt regulations to implement relevant provisions of the bill to be effective no later than January 1, 2025.

02/07/24 House: Subcommittee recommends reporting with substitute (8-Y 0-N) 02/08/24 House: Reported from Health and Human Services with substitute (22-Y 0-N) 02/09/24 House: Reported from Appropriations with amendment(s) (20-Y 0-N) 02/13/24 House: VOTE: Block Vote Passage (99-Y 0-N)

02/23/24 Senate: Senate subcommittee amendments and substitutes offered

HB 120 DPOR and DHP; certain suspensions not considered disciplinary action.

Chief patron: Sullivan

Summary as introduced:

Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation; Department of Health Professions; certain suspensions not considered disciplinary action. Prohibits any board of the Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation or the Department of Health Professions issuing a suspension upon any regulant of such board pursuant to such regulant's having submitted a check, money draft, or similar instrument for payment of a fee required by statute or regulation that is not honored by the bank or financial institution named from considering or describing such suspension as a disciplinary action.

01/18/24 House: Subcommittee recommends reporting (8-Y 0-N) 01/23/24 House: Reported from General Laws (21-Y 0-N) 01/30/24 House: Reported from Health and Human Services (22-Y 0-N) 02/05/24 House: VOTE: Block Vote Passage (98-Y 0-N)

02/14/24 Senate: Reported from General Laws and Technology (15-Y 0-N)

02/19/24 Senate: Passed Senate (39-Y 0-N)

HB 722 Regulatory Budget Program; established, report.

Chief patron: Webert

DEAD BILL

Summary as introduced:

Department of Planning and Budget; Regulatory Budget Program established; report. Directs the Department of Planning and Budget to establish a Regulatory Budget

Program under which each executive branch agency subject to the Administrative Process Act shall reduce overall regulatory requirements by 30 percent by January 1, 2027. The bill requires the Department to report to the Speaker of the House of Delegates and the Chairman of the Senate Committee on Rules on the status of the Program no later than October 1 of each year, beginning October 1, 2025. Finally, the bill provides that the Department, in consultation with the Office of the Governor, shall issue guidance for agencies regarding the Program and how an agency can comply with the requirements of the Program. The bill has an expiration date of January 1, 2027.

01/25/24 House: Subcommittee recommends striking from docket (8-Y 0-N)
01/30/24 House: Stricken from docket by General Laws (22-Y 0-N)

HB 1293 Behavioral health and nursing; revision of policies that hinder, etc., health care workforce.

Chief patron: Willett

DEAD BILL

Summary as introduced:

Behavioral health; nursing; work group; report. Directs the Virginia Health Workforce Development Authority to convene a work group to identify and propose revisions to current regulations and policies that hinder the development, retention, and productivity of the health care workforce in behavioral health and nursing.

01/29/24 House: Subcommittee recommends continuing to
2025 02/01/24 House: Continued to 2025 in Rules

[HB 1428](#) Regulatory boards; application review timelines.

Chief patron: Shin

DEAD BILL

Summary as introduced:

Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation; application review timelines. Requires each regulatory board within the Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation to adopt a timeline of each stage that a completed application for licensure, certification, or registration will undergo as it is reviewed by such board. The bill also requires that such regulatory board approve any completed application within 30 days of its receipt unless such board has reasonable certainty that such application includes grounds for denial.

02/08/24 House: Subcommittee recommends striking from docket (7-Y 0-N)
02/08/24 House: Stricken from docket by General Laws (20-Y 0-N)

[SB 682](#) Health professions; universal licensure, requirements.

Chief patron: Suetterlein

DEAD BILL

Summary as introduced:

Health professions; universal licensure; requirements. Requires health regulatory boards within the Department of Health Professions to recognize licenses or certifications issued by other United States jurisdictions, as defined in the bill, as fulfillment for licensure or certification in the Commonwealth if certain conditions are met. The bill also requires such health regulatory boards to recognize work experience as fulfillment for licensure or certification in the Commonwealth if certain conditions are met. The bill does not apply to licensure for physicians or dentists.

02/08/24 Senate: Reported from Education and Health with substitute (15-Y 0-N)
02/08/24 Senate: Motion to rerefer to committee agreed to
02/08/24 Senate: Rereferred to Rules

02/09/24 Senate: Continued to 2025 in Rules (8-Y 6-N 1-A)

ATTACHMENT B

Board of Psychology Guidance Document 125-3.1

Submission of Evidence of Completion of Graduate Work

If an applicant has completed ALL degree requirements, but the graduate transcript does not document that the degree has been awarded solely because of the institution's schedule for conferring degrees, the requirement may be met by submission of an official letter from the institution's graduate psychology program chair attesting that the applicant has successfully fulfilled all educational requirements to earn the degree, but that, due to the institution's schedule, the degree has not yet been conferred. The graduate transcript and the program chair's letter must be submitted to the office of the Board of Psychology.

References

[18VAC125-20-41](#)

[18VAC125-20-65](#)