## **Senator Frederick**

## SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

## SB 5529 Board of Pharmacy

SB 5529 is the budget bill for the Board of Pharmacy. The Board protects the public by ensuring high standards in the practice of pharmacy and by regulating the quality, manufacture, sale, and distribution of drugs. The agency licenses pharmacists by examination or through reciprocity with other states, as well as registers and inspects hospital and retail pharmacies, over-the-counter drug outlets, and drug wholesalers and manufacturers. The Board is financed entirely from Other Fund revenues.

The budget recommended by the Subcommittee totals \$8,855,623 Other Funds and 22.00 FTE. It includes an updated fee schedule to adjust for switching to biennial license renewal and to address the increase in costs of operations driven by changes in the practice of pharmacy and technological advances being incorporated into drug distribution systems. The budget also includes funding for two new positions to meet the growing workload associated with the increase in applicants and licensees.

The Education Subcommittee recommends SB 5529 be amended by the –1 amendment and be reported out do pass, as amended.