

Health Care Issues being considered during the 2016 General Assembly Session



Stephen Rockower,
MD
President 2016-2017
MedChi

MedChi
The Maryland State Medical Society

MCMS
MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MD
MEDICAL SOCIETY

MedChi's Legislative Agenda

Advocate for Physicians	Advocate for Patients	Advocate for Public Health
<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Strengthen Medical Liability Reform▪ Enhance Physician Payment & Insurance Reform▪ Physician Rights	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Defend Scope of Practice to Ensure Patients Seen By a Physician▪ Protect Medicaid and the Uninsured▪ Reform Unfair Insurance Practices	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Make Maryland a Tobacco Free State▪ Protect Maryland's Children▪ End Health Disparities▪ Access Toxic Chemical Exposure Information

Physician Rights

PHYSICIAN GOAL: Defend physician rights and practices

- ▶ Oppose measures that direct physician license fees to other programs - SB 217
- ▶ Eliminate Educational Requirements - HB185
- ▶ Monitor the regulatory and disciplinary actions of the Board of Physicians and Board of Pharmacy
- ▶ Address delays in obtaining CDS licenses from the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene



Medicaid and the Uninsured

PHYSICIAN GOAL: Protect Medicaid and the Uninsured

- ▶ Advocate for reimbursement of E&M codes to 100% of Medicare to ensure physician participation and adequate access for patients
 - ▶ Original FY2016 budget reduced reimbursement for E & M codes to 87% of Medicare
 - ▶ MedChi successfully secured an increase to 92%
 - ▶ ?Governor's Budget Proposal - No Change
- ▶ Maintain and strengthen an adequate safety net for the uninsured

Toxic Chemical Information

PHYSICIAN GOAL: Provide adequate information to physicians to help them treat patients exposed to toxic chemicals

- ▶ Support policies and regulations that grant physicians access to information about chemicals - HB 394
- ▶ Oppose efforts to restrict a physician's ability to use the information to protect the public health or prevent further exposure

Other Bills Considered

- ▶ SB 30 Anaesthesia Assistants
- ▶ SB 382 PDMP
- ▶ HB 377 No Fault Birth Fund
- ▶ SB 335 AOB Modification
- ▶ SB 258 Workers' Comp Billing



Bills Coming Up

- ▶ Aid in Dying
- ▶ Nurse Practitioners
- ▶ Virtual Credit Cards
- ▶ Waiver

Physicians Serving in the Maryland General Assembly



Del. Terri Hill, MD



Del. Jay Jalisi, MD



Del. Clarence
Lam, MD



Del. Dan
Morhaim, MD

Four Delegates in the Maryland House and all are MedChi Members!

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How YOU can be Involved

- Legislative Council Mondays - Sunday calls
- Doctor of the Day
- MCMS Day in Annapolis - March 9
- Call and Interact with Legislators
- Maryland Medical PAC



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