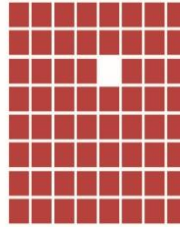




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Maryland Chapter  
**AMERICAN COLLEGE OF  
EMERGENCY PHYSICIANS**

TO: The Honorable Joseph F. Vallario, Jr., Chair  
Members, House Judiciary Committee  
The Honorable Susan K. McComas

FROM: J. Steven Wise  
Pamela Metz Kasemeyer  
Danna L. Kauffman

DATE: March 9, 2017

RE: **OPPOSE** – House Bill 1198 – *Child Abuse and Neglect – Training*

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On behalf of the Maryland State Medical Society (MedChi) and the Maryland Chapter of the American College of Emergency Physicians (MDACEP), we submit this letter of **opposition** for House Bill 1198.

This legislation would require that every health care practitioner, including physicians, to receive periodic training on the obligation to report abuse and neglect, and how to recognize abused and neglected children.

The above organizations recognize the obligation that physicians have to identify and report child abuse. However, we do not support a training mandate that covers all physicians, regardless of specialty and whether the physician ever sees children in their practice. MedChi and MDACEP have always resisted attempts to mandate continuing medical education in specific areas because the practice of medicine and the specialties within it vary so much, and certain training efforts simply do not make sense for all types of physicians. We view the mandate contained in this legislation in the same way.

For these reasons, MedChi and MDACEP would ask for an unfavorable report on this legislation.

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