

# MedChi

*The Maryland State Medical Society*

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TO: The Honorable Peter A. Hammen, Chairman  
Members, House Health & Government Operations Committee  
The Honorable Eric Bromwell

FROM: Joseph A. Schwartz, III  
Pamela Metz Kasemeyer  
J. Steven Wise

DATE: February 25, 2010

RE: **SUPPORT WITH AMENDMENT** – House Bill 1026 – *Health Insurance –  
Dental Provider Contracts – Prohibited Provision*

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The Maryland State Medical Society (MedChi), which represents over 7,300 Maryland physicians and their patients, supports with amendments House Bill 1026.

House Bill 1026 protects the dentist from a contractual provision mandated by a dental plan that dictates fees to be charged by the dentist for services which are not covered by dental insurance. It is certainly appropriate for a health insurance carrier to require a physician or dentist to adhere to a fee schedule for services which are being reimbursed by the insurance carrier. It is not, however, appropriate for an insurance carrier to attempt to control fees for which the carrier is not reimbursing the dentist or physician.

Insurance carriers have disproportionate negotiating power with Maryland dentists and Maryland physicians. MedChi believes that House Bill 1026 will provide some support to dentists and would ask that the Bill be favorably enacted with an amendment applying it to all health care providers in Maryland.

**For more information call:**

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