

MedChi

The Maryland State Medical Society

1211 Cathedral Street
Baltimore, MD 21201-5516
410.539.0872
Fax: 410.547.0915

1.800.492.1056
www.medchi.org

TO: The Honorable Maggie McIntosh, Chairman
Members, House Environmental Matters Committee
The Honorable Barbara Frush

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

DATE: February 22, 2013

RE: **SUPPORT WITH AMENDMENT** – House Bill 798 – *Environment – Radiation Sources – Podiatry and Chiropractic Radiation Machines*

The Maryland State Medical Society (MedChi), which represents over 7,500 Maryland physicians and their patients, supports House Bill 798 with amendment.

As drafted, House Bill 798 would provide podiatrists and chiropractors who have radiology equipment in their offices with an opportunity to remedy certain violations found during inspections by the Department of the Environment.

MedChi supports this legislation because it allows practitioners a 20- day period to come into compliance without significant fines for violations which do not present a serious and probable danger to patients or employees. This policy makes sense because it achieves the ultimate goal of inspections—ensuring compliance.

However, the bill does not currently provide physicians with this same opportunity to take corrective action. Accordingly, MedChi has spoken with the sponsor who kindly agreed to offer an amendment applying the legislation to physicians as well.

With this amendment, MedChi supports House Bill 798.

For more information call:

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

410-244-7000