

MedChi

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

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

DATE: March 28, 2013

RE: **SUPPORT** – House Bill 1356 – *Health Care Practitioners – Identification Badge*

The Maryland State Medical Society (MedChi), which represents over 7,500 Maryland physicians and their patients, supports House Bill 1356.

This legislation requires a health care practitioner to wear an identification badge identifying the person's name and the license held by that person.

The goal of the legislation could not be more simple and straightforward: Patients should know who they are talking to and what professional license they hold. In physician's offices and urgent care centers in particular, physicians work closely with nurse practitioners and physicians assistants among others. The patient should not have to ask with whom they are consulting, and the identification badge requirement provides that information to the patient on sight. Professionals should embrace this legislation as an opportunity to proudly display their credentials, and patients will be informed of basic information regarding their health care providers.

For these reasons, MedChi supports this legislation.

For more information call:

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