

MedChi

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TO: The Honorable Brian E. Frosh, Chairman
Members, Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee
The Honorable Norman Stone

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

DATE: March 13, 2013

RE: **SUPPORT WITH AMENDMENT** – Senate Bill 557 – *Medical Records – Disclosure in Response to Compulsory Process – Requirements*

The Maryland State Medical Society (MedChi), which represents over 7,500 Maryland physicians and their patients, supports Senate Bill 557 with amendment.

Senate Bill 557, as amended, would establish an advisory protocol and voluntary training program for attorneys and health care providers on how to respond to compulsory process requests for medical records. This would include information regarding the requirements of federal and state law on health records, and would be done in consultation with MedChi and other interested parties.

Physicians are often faced with these requests and are unsure how to respond. Furthermore, it is not uncommon for attorneys seeking the records to have not properly followed the process set out in statute. For that reason, the voluntary training program set out in the uncodified language is a worthy endeavor.

For these reasons, MedChi supports Senate Bill 557 as amended.

For more information call:

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