

MedChi

The Maryland State Medical Society

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TO: The Honorable Brian E. Frosh, Chair
Members, Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee
The Honorable Christopher Shank

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

DATE: February 20, 2014

RE: **OPPOSE** – Senate Bill 607 – *Child Abuse and Neglect – Failure to Report and Training*

The Maryland State Medical Society (MedChi), which represents more than 8,000 Maryland physicians and their patients, oppose Senate Bill 607. This bill requires each individual licensed or certified under the Health Occupations Article to receive, prior to licensure or certification, ninety (90) minutes of training in the identification and reporting of child abuse and neglect. This training must be repeated every four years. If an individual fails to receive this training, the respective health occupation board may take disciplinary action against the individual.

There are approximately thirty (30) professionals either licensed or certified by the health occupation boards. Historically, MedChi has been opposed to measures that mandate subject matter for continuing education on the basis that education requirements should be tailored to the physician's specialty and practice setting. Under this bill, physicians and others licensed by the Board of Physicians will be mandated to complete the required training despite working in a setting that does not involve children. For these reasons, we urge an unfavorable vote on Senate Bill 607.

For more information call:

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