

# MedChi

*The Maryland State Medical Society*

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TO: The Honorable Joan Carter Conway, Chair  
Members, Senate Education, Health & Environmental Affairs Committee  
The Honorable Joanne Benson

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

DATE: March 12, 2014

RE: **OPPOSED** – Senate Bill 1016 – *Maryland Kinesiology Act*

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The Maryland State Medical Society (MedChi), which represents over 8,000 Maryland physicians and their patients, opposes Senate Bill 1016.

Senate Bill 1016 would license the practice of kinesiotherapy in the State.

Similar legislation was introduced in 2012. At that time the Fiscal Note indicated that no other state licensed this practice. Additionally, the purported scope of practice contained in the bill is shared with at least 3 other currently licensed health occupations in the State, including physical therapists, athletic trainers, and occupational therapists.

Moreover, in 2012 there were only 9 kinesiotherapists in the entire State of Maryland. The bill requires that the fees charged for this profession approximate the cost of maintaining the program, but with so few in the profession it does not appear the licensure fees could be set in a reasonable amount and still adhere to this requirement. Indeed, the recent Sunset Review of the Board of Physicians and its Allied Health Professions – which this occupation would also be – notes that the fees among the allied health practices should be studied because it appears some are subsidizing others. Clearly, licensing kinesiotherapists would exacerbate this existing problem.

For these reasons, MedChi urges the Committee to oppose Senate Bill 1016.

**For more information call:**

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