

MedChi

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TO: The Honorable Joan Carter Conway, Chair
Members, Senate Education, Health and Environmental Affairs Committee
The Honorable Dan K. Morhaim

FROM: J. Steven Wise
Pam M. Kasemeyer
Danna L. Kauffman

DATE: March 24, 2016

RE: **SUPPORT** – House Bill 185 – *State Board of Physicians – Licensed Physicians – Continuing Education Requirements*

The Maryland State Medical Society (MedChi), which represents more than 7,600 Maryland physicians and their patients, supports House Bill 185.

House Bill 185 will prohibit the Board of Physicians from requiring that physicians complete a specific course or program as a condition to the renewal of a license.

This legislation is consistent with the General Assembly's policy of not mandating continuing medical education requirements in specific subject matters. The basis of this policy has been that physicians practice in many different specialties, and their continuing education should be able to focus on specific areas that are relevant to that specialty. Requiring continuing education in specific areas or through specific courses sets a bad course, as the current medical issues of the day – such as the Zika virus – would each become a required subject matter, to the point that physicians would no longer be able to tailor their coursework to their particular practice.

Accordingly, MedChi requests that this Committee vote favorably on House Bill 185.

For more information call:

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