TO: The Honorable Shane E. Pendergrass, Chair  
Members, House Health and Government Operations Committee  
The Honorable Steve Johnson

FROM: Danna L. Kauffman  
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DATE: March 6, 2020

RE: SUPPORT WITH AMENDMENT – House Bill 1486 – Public Health – Non-Controlled Substance Prescription Record System Program

On behalf of the Maryland State Medical Society (MedChi) and the Maryland Chapter of the American College of Emergency Physicians (MDACEP), we submit this letter of support with amendment for House Bill 1486. House Bill 1486 establishes the NCDS Prescription Record System Program under the Maryland Health Care Commission (MHCC). The purpose of the Program is to improve patient safety and reduce health care costs by allowing a prescriber and prescriber delegate to access the noncontrolled dangerous substance (NCDS) prescription drug history of a patient, including drugs prescribed by other prescribers. The bill also establishes the NCDS Prescription Record System Program Advisory Committee, with specified membership, to provide clinical and operational recommendations to MHCC.

As stated, MedChi and MDACEP support this bill. However, we would request amendments to ensure that the MHCC develops regulations after consultation and review of the recommendations from the Advisory Committee.

On page 4, in line 9 and on page 5, in line 5, strike “SHALL” and substitute “SHALL, AFTER CONSULTATION AND REVIEW OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE”.

With this amendment, we look forward to working with the MHCC and other stakeholders on the development of this Program.