



MedChi

The Maryland State Medical Society

Your Advocate. Your Resource. Your Profession.

MedChi Legislative Newsletter

Your Guide to Health Care Legislation

During the 2024 Legislative Session

January 24, 2024

MedChi, The Maryland State Medical Society

1211 Cathedral Street | Baltimore, Maryland 21201

Benjamin H. Lowentritt, MD

President, MedChi

Clement S. Banda, MD

Co-Chair, MedChi Council on Legislation

Kathleen D. Keeffe Hough, MD

Co-Chair, MedChi Council on Legislation

MedChi Law and Advocacy

Email: advocacy@medchi.org | Phone: 410-539-0872

MedChi Report

Bill	Title	Synopsis	Sponsor	Status	Origin	Opposite	Position	Subcom
HB 10	Criminal Injuries Compensation Board - Eligible Individuals and Direct Reimbursement for Mental Health Services	Altering which individuals are eligible to receive mental health counseling paid for by the Criminal Injuries Compensation Fund; requiring the Criminal Injuries Compensation Board to provide direct reimbursement to mental health professionals providing mental health services to a victim of a crime or a parent, a child, a sibling, a stepchild, or an intimate partner of a victim of a crime; and requiring the Board, in consultation with the Maryland Department of Health, to adopt regulations to implement the reimbursement program.	Attar	In the House - Hearing canceled	Judiciary		FYI	FYI
HB 30 (SB 217)	Health Insurance - Conformity With Federal Law	Conforming provisions of State health insurance law with existing federal requirements, including updating effective dates for federal regulations, clarifying federal consumer protection regulations resulting from changes to the federal No Surprises Act, altering the material errors that trigger special enrollment periods, and authorizing the Maryland Health Benefits Exchange to adopt an expanded open enrollment period under certain circumstances.	Chair, Health and Government Operations Committee	In the House - Hearing 1/25 at 2:30 p.m.	Health and Government Operations Thu 1/25 2:30 PM		FYI	FYI

* Please Note: Dr. Harbhajan Ajrawat, MD and Dr. Marie-Alberte Boursiquot, MD recused on every vote related to legislation that relates to or will be considered by the Maryland Board of Physicians.*

MedChi Report

Bill	Title	Synopsis	Sponsor	Status	Origin	Opposite	Position	Subcom
HB 42 (SB 220)	Public Health - Public Health Services and Protections - Revisions	Repealing the exceptions that allow the sale, distribution, or purchase of tobacco products, tobacco paraphernalia, and electronic smoking devices to or for certain individuals who are active duty members of the military; authorizing the Maryland Department of Health to reallocate from one county to another county certain projected unspent grant funding relating to cancer to address certain funding needs; altering the duties of the State Council on Child Abuse and Neglect; etc.	Chair, Health and Government Operations Committee	In the House - Hearing 1/31 at 1:00 p.m.	Health and Government Operations Wed 1/31 1:00 PM		No Position	PH
HB 65	Public Schools - Medical and Psychological Treatment in School-Based Health Centers and Public Schools - Parental Notice	Requiring a school health practitioner, health care practitioner, or certified school psychologist employed by or under a contract with a school-based health center, local school system, or local health department to provide school health services at a public school to provide certain information to a certain student's parent or guardian about any consultation, diagnosis, or treatment provided to the student.	Miller	In the House - First Reading Health and Government Operations and Ways and Means	Health and Government Operations; Ways and Means		FYI	FYI

* Please Note: Dr. Harbhajan Ajrawat, MD and Dr. Marie-Alberte Boursiquot, MD recused on every vote related to legislation that relates to or will be considered by the Maryland Board of Physicians.*

MedChi Report

Bill	Title	Synopsis	Sponsor	Status	Origin	Opposite	Position	Subcom
HB 74	Public Schools - Lifesaver Schools Program - Establishment	Establishing the Lifesaver Schools Program to recognize public schools that provide health and safety training to students and school personnel; requiring Lifesaver Schools to offer students, at a minimum, training on cardiopulmonary resuscitation and first aid, mental health wellness programs or a peer mentoring program, provide service hours for student participants, and offer certain training to school personnel; and authorizing a public school to partner with the county board to meet the criteria to qualify as a Lifesaver School.	Guyton	In the House - Hearing 1/17 at 1:00 p.m.	Ways and Means Wed 1/17 1:00 PM		FYI	FYI
HB 76 (SB 18)	Health Occupations - Pharmacists - Administration of Vaccines	Authorizing a pharmacist to order and administer certain vaccinations to individuals in certain age groups if certain requirements are met; altering the vaccinations that a pharmacist can administer to individuals at least 5 years old; altering the circumstances under which a pharmacist may administer certain vaccinations; and making the Act an emergency measure.	Lopez	In the House - Hearing 2/01 at 1:00 p.m.	Health and Government Operations Thu 2/1 1:00 PM		Oppose	BC
HB 83 (SB 538)	Civil Actions - Noneconomic Damages - Personal Injury and Wrongful Death	Repealing certain limitations on noneconomic damages in civil actions for personal injury or wrongful death; and applying the Act prospectively.	Ziegler	In the House - Hearing 2/07 at 1:00 p.m.	Judiciary Wed 2/7 1:00 PM		Oppose	BC

* Please Note: Dr. Harbhajan Ajrawat, MD and Dr. Marie-Alberte Boursiquot, MD recused on every vote related to legislation that relates to or will be considered by the Maryland Board of Physicians.*

MedChi Report

Bill	Title	Synopsis	Sponsor	Status	Origin	Opposite	Position	Subcom
HB 84 (SB 332)	Hospitals and Urgent Care Centers - Sepsis Protocol (Lochlin's Law)	Requiring, on or before January 1, 2025, each hospital and urgent care center in the State to implement an evidence-based protocol for the early recognition and treatment of a patient with sepsis, severe sepsis, or septic shock that is based on generally acceptable standards of care; and requiring hospitals and urgent care centers to require periodic training in the implementation of the protocol for staff with direct patient care responsibilities, and, as appropriate, for certain staff with indirect patient care responsibilities.	Kerr	In the House - Hearing 2/15 at 1:00 p.m.	Health and Government Operations Thu 2/15 1:00 PM		FYI	FYI
HB 96 (SB 117)	Health - Newborn Screening Program - Krabbe Leukodystrophy	Requiring that the Maryland Department of Health's newborn screening system include screening for Krabbe leukodystrophy.	T. Morgan	In the House - Hearing 2/07 at 1:00 p.m.	Health and Government Operations Wed 2/7 1:00 PM		FYI	FYI
HB 110 (SB 93)	Health Insurance - Utilization Review - Private Review Agents	Requiring that certain criteria and standards used by private review agents for health insurance utilization review relating to mental health and substance use disorder benefits meet certain requirements; requiring a private review agent to take certain actions before issuing an adverse decision; and specifying the procedure for private review agents to follow when making decisions related to mental health and substance use disorder benefits.	Charkoudian	In the House - First Reading Health and Government Operations	Health and Government Operations		No Position	HI

* Please Note: Dr. Harbhajan Ajrawat, MD and Dr. Marie-Alberte Boursiquot, MD recused on every vote related to legislation that relates to or will be considered by the Maryland Board of Physicians.*

MedChi Report

Bill	Title	Synopsis	Sponsor	Status	Origin	Opposite	Position	Subcom
HB 119 (SB 211)	Public Health - Giving Infants a Future Without Transmission (GIFT) Act	Altering certain HIV and syphilis reporting and testing requirements for hospitals and health care providers for pregnant women and newborns, including by requiring that the pregnancy status of certain individuals be included in certain reports and that certain health care providers submit certain blood samples to medical laboratories.	Chair, Health and Government Operations Committee	In the House - Hearing 2/07 at 1:00 p.m.	Health and Government Operations Wed 2/7 1:00 PM		Support	PH
HB 127 (SB 246)	Public Health - Nonoccupational Postexposure Prophylaxis (nPEP) Standing Order Program - Establishment	Establishing the Nonoccupational Postexposure Prophylaxis (nPEP) Standing Order Program to authorize pharmacists and health care providers to prescribe or dispense nPEP under certain circumstances; and authorizing the Maryland Department of Health to administer the Program, collect fees necessary for the administration of the Program, and establish guidelines for training related to the Program.	Chair, Health and Government Operations Committee	In the House - Hearing 1/31 at 1:00 p.m.	Health and Government Operations Wed 1/31 1:00 PM		Oppose	PH
HB 146 (SB 221)	Health Occupations Boards - Reciprocal Licensure and Certification	Authorizing certain health occupations boards to adopt regulations establishing reciprocity for individuals licensed or certified in another state or jurisdiction.	Chair, Health and Government Operations Committee	In the House - Hearing 2/01 at 1:00 p.m.	Health and Government Operations Thu 2/1 1:00 PM		No Position	BC

* Please Note: Dr. Harbhajan Ajrawat, MD and Dr. Marie-Alberte Boursiquot, MD recused on every vote related to legislation that relates to or will be considered by the Maryland Board of Physicians.*

MedChi Report

Bill	Title	Synopsis	Sponsor	Status	Origin	Opposite	Position	Subcom
HB 149	Medical Records - Destruction - Authorization	Extending the time period during which a health care provider is prohibited from destroying medical records and laboratory and X-ray reports and altering the circumstances under which the health care provider can destroy a record or report during that time period; requiring a health care provider, if authorization to destroy a record or report is provided, to make a medical record available for retrieval by a patient or a parent or guardian of a minor patient within a certain time period and at a certain location; etc.	Pippy	In the House - Hearing 2/07 at 1:00 p.m.	Health and Government Operations Wed 2/7 1:00 PM		Hold	BC
HB 153 (SB 144)	Medical Records - Fees - Attorneys Representing Patients	Adding an attorney representing a patient to the list of individuals to whom a health care provider is prohibited from charging a fee for providing copies of a medical record that will be used for the purpose of filing a claim regarding or appealing a denial of Social Security disability income or Social Security benefits.	Rosenberg	In the House - Hearing 2/07 at 1:00 p.m.	Health and Government Operations Wed 2/7 1:00 PM		Support with Amendment	BC

* Please Note: Dr. Harbhajan Ajrawat, MD and Dr. Marie-Alberte Boursiquot, MD recused on every vote related to legislation that relates to or will be considered by the Maryland Board of Physicians.*

MedChi Report

Bill	Title	Synopsis	Sponsor	Status	Origin	Opposite	Position	Subcom
HB 177	Hospitals - Care of Infants After Discharge	Requiring a hospital to provide certain oral and written instructions to the parent or legal guardian of an infant before the hospital discharges the infant into the care of the parent or legal guardian; requiring a hospital before discharging an infant to inquire as to whether a parent or legal guardian is able to provide the infant with a safe sleep environment and a bassinet, crib, or portable crib, inform a parent or legal guardian of certain matters, and provide each parent or legal guardian with a certain form; etc.	R. Lewis	In the House - Hearing 2/07 at 1:00 p.m.	Health and Government Operations Wed 2/7 1:00 PM		FYI	FYI
HB 184	Public Health - Healthy Maryland Program - Establishment	Establishing the Healthy Maryland Program as a public corporation and a unit of State government to provide comprehensive universal single-payer health care services for residents of the State by January 1, 2026; establishing requirements and prohibitions related to Healthy Maryland, including provisions regarding eligibility, participation by and payments to health care providers, benefits, payroll premiums, funding, and collective negotiations with health care providers; etc.	Acevero	In the House - First Reading Health and Government Operations	Health and Government Operations		FYI	FYI

* Please Note: Dr. Harbhajan Ajrawat, MD and Dr. Marie-Alberte Boursiquot, MD recused on every vote related to legislation that relates to or will be considered by the Maryland Board of Physicians.*

MedChi Report

Bill	Title	Synopsis	Sponsor	Status	Origin	Opposite	Position	Subcom
HB 191 (SB 71)	Correctional Services - Pregnancy and Postpartum Support (Prevention of Forced Infant Separation Act)	Requiring the Division of Correction to allow a certain pregnant woman and a certain woman who recently gave birth to transfer to the prerelease unit for women for 1 year following the birth; establishing the Healthy Start Bonding Program to facilitate strong bonds between incarcerated women and their children; and requiring the Division to allow liberal visitation between certain individuals and certain children under certain circumstances.	Mireku-North	In the House - First Reading Judiciary	Judiciary		FYI	FYI
HB 204 (SB 165)	Education - Coaches - Mental Health Training	Requiring the State Department of Education to develop guidelines for public schools and the Maryland Higher Education Commission to develop guidelines for public institutions of higher education to train coaches to recognize indicators of mental illness and behavioral distress in students who participate in athletic programs in public schools and public institutions of higher education; requiring public schools and public institutions that offer athletic programs to provide a certain training to coaches; etc.	Attar	In the House - Hearing 1/23 at 2:00 p.m. (Appropriations)	Appropriations; Ways and Means Tue 1/23 2:00 PM		Support	PH

* Please Note: Dr. Harbhajan Ajrawat, MD and Dr. Marie-Alberte Boursiquot, MD recused on every vote related to legislation that relates to or will be considered by the Maryland Board of Physicians.*

MedChi Report

Bill	Title	Synopsis	Sponsor	Status	Origin	Opposite	Position	Subcom
HB 232 (SB 218)	Physicians and Allied Health Professions - Reorganization and Revisions	Repealing obsolete and redundant language in, clarifying language in, and reorganizing certain provisions of law governing the State Board of Physicians and the regulation of physicians, physician assistants, and allied health professions; altering physician, physician assistant, and allied health professional licensure exceptions for individuals in the service of the federal government; altering the grounds for discipline for physicians, physician assistants, and allied health professionals; etc.	Chair, Health and Government Operations Committee	In the House - Hearing 1/23 at 1:00 p.m.	Health and Government Operations Tue 1/23 1:00 PM		No Position	BC
HB 238 (SB 244)	Public Health - Clean Indoor Air Act - Revisions	Prohibiting vaping in certain indoor areas and certain mass transportation; and requiring that certain signs be posted and maintained in a certain manner in each indoor area open to the public and each public entrance to an indoor area where smoking or vaping is prohibited under the Clean Indoor Air Act.	Chair, Economic Matters Committee	In the House - First Reading Economic Matters	Economic Matters		Support	PH
HB 240 (SB 227)	Health Insurance - Cancellation of Individual Health Benefit Plans - Restriction	Prohibiting a carrier from canceling an individual health benefit plan if a policyholder has made a premium payment before the end of the grace period, the amount of the premium payment made is less than the aggregate amount of the net monthly premium due as of the date of the payment, the amount of the deficiency is \$10 or less, and the policyholder pays the remainder of the net monthly premium due within 30 days after a written notice of the deficiency is sent by the carrier.	Chair, Health and Government Operations Committee	In the House - Hearing 1/25 at 2:30 p.m.	Health and Government Operations Thu 1/25 2:30 PM		FYI	FYI

* Please Note: Dr. Harbhajan Ajrawat, MD and Dr. Marie-Alberte Boursiquot, MD recused on every vote related to legislation that relates to or will be considered by the Maryland Board of Physicians.*

MedChi Report

Bill	Title	Synopsis	Sponsor	Status	Origin	Opposite	Position	Subcom
HB 276	Health - Abortion Data - Submission to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention	Requiring the Maryland Department of Health to submit to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention any data regarding abortion requested by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, unless submitting the data would violate federal or State law.	Grammer	In the House - First Reading Health and Government Operations	Health and Government Operations		TBD	PH
HB 295 (SB 103)	Overdose Awareness Day	Requiring the Governor annually to proclaim August 31 as Overdose Awareness Day.	J. Long	In the House - First Reading Health and Government Operations	Health and Government Operations		FYI	FYI
HB 312	Physician Assistants - Collaboration Agreements	Requiring a physician assistant to have a collaboration agreement with a patient care team physician, rather than a delegation agreement with a primary supervising physician, in order to practice as a physician assistant; increasing, from four to eight, the number of physician assistants to whom a patient care team physician may delegate medical acts under a collaboration agreement; altering the circumstances under which and the settings at which a physician assistant is authorized to perform advanced duties without certain approval; etc.	Bagnall	In the House - Hearing canceled	Health and Government Operations		Withdrawn	BC

* Please Note: Dr. Harbhajan Ajrawat, MD and Dr. Marie-Alberte Boursiquot, MD recused on every vote related to legislation that relates to or will be considered by the Maryland Board of Physicians.*

MedChi Report

Bill	Title	Synopsis	Sponsor	Status	Origin	Opposite	Position	Subcom
HB 340 (SB 388)	Prescription Drug Affordability Board - Authority for Upper Payment Limits and Funding (The Lowering Prescription Drug Costs For All Marylanders Now Act)	Requiring the Governor in fiscal year 2025 and each fiscal year thereafter to include in the annual budget bill an appropriation of at least \$1,000,000 for the Prescription Drug Affordability Fund which provides funding for the Board; and requiring the Board, under certain circumstances, to establish a process for setting upper payment limits for all purchases and payor reimbursements of prescription drug products in the State that the Board determines have led or will lead to affordability challenges.	Cullison	In the House - First Reading Health and Government Operations	Health and Government Operations		Refer to MedChi Board	HI
HB 355 (SB 62)	Health Occupations - Licensed Direct-Entry Midwives - Previous Cesarean Section	Allowing a licensed direct-entry midwife to assume or take responsibility for a client who had a previous cesarean section and regulating the circumstances under which the responsibility may be assumed or taken; altering the required contents of a certain informed consent agreement; and requiring the State Board of Nursing, in consultation with certain stakeholders, to develop a transport protocol for clients who had a previous cesarean section.	Cullison	In the House - Hearing 2/06 at 1:00 p.m.	Health and Government Operations Tue 2/6 1:00 PM		Oppose	BC

* Please Note: Dr. Harbhajan Ajrawat, MD and Dr. Marie-Alberte Boursiquot, MD recused on every vote related to legislation that relates to or will be considered by the Maryland Board of Physicians.*

MedChi Report

Bill	Title	Synopsis	Sponsor	Status	Origin	Opposite	Position	Subcom
HB 367 (SB 527)	Community Colleges - Contraception - Access Requirements	Requiring on or before October 1, 2024, each community college to develop and implement a plan to provide students with access to over-the-counter contraception; requiring each community college to submit a certain report to the Maryland Higher Education Commission on or before a July 1 each year; requiring the Commission to submit a certain report to the General Assembly on or before a September 1 each year; and authorizing the Maryland Department of Health, on request, to provide certain assistance to a community college.	Smith	In the House - First Reading Appropriations and Health and Government Operations	Appropriations; Health and Government Operations		FYI	FYI
HB 370	Maryland Department of Health - Study on the Effects of and Preparedness for Long COVID-19	Requiring the Maryland Department of Health, in consultation with the Maryland Department of Labor and the Department of Human Services, to conduct a study on the preparedness of health facilities in the State to respond to viral illnesses and the effects of post-viral illnesses resulting from long COVID-19; and requiring the Department, on or before July 1, 2025, to report its finding and recommendations to the Senate Finance Committee and the House Health and Government Operations Committee.	Vogel	In the House - First Reading Health and Government Operations	Health and Government Operations		Support	PH

* Please Note: Dr. Harbhajan Ajrawat, MD and Dr. Marie-Alberte Boursiquot, MD recused on every vote related to legislation that relates to or will be considered by the Maryland Board of Physicians.*

MedChi Report

Bill	Title	Synopsis	Sponsor	Status	Origin	Opposite	Position	Subcom
HB 400 (SB 124)	Maryland Medical Assistance Program and Health Insurance - Annual Behavioral Health Wellness Visits - Coverage and Reimbursement	Requiring the Maryland Medical Assistance Program and certain health insurers, nonprofit health service plans, and health maintenance organizations to provide coverage and certain reimbursement for annual behavioral health wellness visits; and applying the Act to all policies, contracts, and health benefit plans issued, delivered, or renewed in the State on or after January 1, 2025.	Woods	In the House - First Reading Health and Government Operations	Health and Government Operations		Support	HI
HB 403 (SB 443)	End-of-Life Option Act (The Honorable Elijah E. Cummings and the Honorable Shane E. Pendergrass Act)	Authorizing an individual to request aid in dying by making certain requests; establishing requirements and prohibitions governing aid in dying, including requirements related to requests for aid in dying, consulting physicians, mental health assessments, the disposal of drugs prescribed for aid in dying, health care facility policies, and the effect of aid in dying on insurance policies; authorizing a pharmacist to dispense medication for aid in dying only to certain individuals under certain circumstances; etc.	Hill	In the House - First Reading Health and Government Operations and Judiciary	Health and Government Operations; Judiciary		No Position Per MedChi House of Delegates Resolution	FYI

* Please Note: Dr. Harbhajan Ajrawat, MD and Dr. Marie-Alberte Boursiquot, MD recused on every vote related to legislation that relates to or will be considered by the Maryland Board of Physicians.*

MedChi Report

Bill	Title	Synopsis	Sponsor	Status	Origin	Opposite	Position	Subcom
HB 405 (SB 365)	Family Law - Child Custody Evaluators - Qualifications and Training	Specifying certain qualifications and training necessary for an individual to be appointed or approved by a court as a custody evaluator; specifying that certain expert evidence is admissible in certain child custody and visitation proceedings under certain circumstances; and requiring a court, in any action in which child support, custody, or visitation is at issue to provide information to the parties regarding the role, availability, and cost of a custody evaluator.	Kaufman	In the House - Hearing 2/08 at 1:00 p.m.	Judiciary Thu 2/8 1:00 PM		No Position	BC
HB 411 (SB 408)	Public Health - Opioid Overdose Reversal Drugs - Standing Orders	Requiring a licensed health care provider, when issuing a standing order for an opioid reversal drug, to allow an individual to choose any formulation of any opioid reversal drug approved by the federal Food and Drug Administration.	Kipke	In the House - First Reading Health and Government Operations	Health and Government Operations		No Position	PH
HB 425 (SB 359)	Advanced Practice Registered Nurse Compact	Entering into the Advanced Practice Registered Nurse Compact; establishing criteria for participating states; authorizing an advanced practice registered nurse to practice in a party state under certain scope of practice rules; establishing the Interstate Commission of APRN Compact Administrators and its duties and powers; providing for the amendment of and withdrawal from the Compact; providing that the Compact is contingent on the enacting of substantially similar legislation in six other states; etc.	Rosenberg	In the House - Hearing 2/06 at 1:00 p.m.	Health and Government Operations Tue 2/6 1:00 PM		Support with Amendment	BC

* Please Note: Dr. Harbhajan Ajrawat, MD and Dr. Marie-Alberte Boursiquot, MD recused on every vote related to legislation that relates to or will be considered by the Maryland Board of Physicians.*

MedChi Report

Bill	Title	Synopsis	Sponsor	Status	Origin	Opposite	Position	Subcom
SB 3	Health Occupations - Service Members, Veterans, and Military Spouses - Temporary Licensure, Certification, Registration, and Permitting	Requiring health occupations boards to issue an expedited temporary license, certificate, registration, or permit to a service member, veteran, or military spouse who meets certain requirements; requiring each health occupations board to include a check-off box prominently on each license, certification, or registration application form; requiring the Maryland Department of Health to publish prominently on its website information about the expedited licensing process and any assistance provided; etc.	Jackson	In the Senate - Hearing 1/30 at 1:00 p.m.	Finance Tue 1/30 1:00 PM		No Position	BC
SB 18 (HB 76)	Health Occupations - Pharmacists - Administration of Vaccines	Authorizing a pharmacist to order and administer certain vaccinations to individuals in certain age groups if certain requirements are met; altering the vaccinations that a pharmacist can administer to individuals at least 5 years old; and altering the circumstances under which a pharmacist may administer certain vaccinations.	Augustine	In the Senate - Hearing 2/13 at 1:00 p.m.	Finance Tue 2/13 1:00 PM		Oppose	BC
SB 47	Public Health - Sale of Diet Pills to Minors - Prohibition (Protecting Teenagers From Unregulated Diet Pills)	Establishing prohibitions and requirements regarding the sale of diet pills to individuals under the age of 18 years; requiring the Maryland Department of Health to develop a notice with information about the potential health risks of diet pills; and authorizing the Department to establish limitations on which diet pills are subject to the Act.	Benson	In the Senate - Hearing 2/08 at 1:00 p.m.	Finance Thu 2/8 1:00 PM		Support	PH

* Please Note: Dr. Harbhajan Ajrawat, MD and Dr. Marie-Alberte Boursiquot, MD recused on every vote related to legislation that relates to or will be considered by the Maryland Board of Physicians.*

MedChi Report

Bill	Title	Synopsis	Sponsor	Status	Origin	Opposite	Position	Subcom
SB 62 (HB 355)	Health Occupations - Licensed Direct-Entry Midwives - Previous Cesarean Section	Allowing a licensed direct-entry midwife to assume or take responsibility for a client who had a previous cesarean section and regulating the circumstances under which the responsibility may be assumed or taken; altering the required contents of a certain informed consent agreement; and requiring the State Board of Nursing, in consultation with certain stakeholders, to develop a transport protocol for clients who had a previous cesarean section.	Ellis	In the Senate - First Reading Finance	Finance		Oppose	BC
SB 71 (HB 191)	Correctional Services - Pregnancy and Postpartum Support (Prevention of Forced Infant Separation Act)	Requiring the Division of Correction to allow a certain pregnant woman and a certain woman who recently gave birth to transfer to the prerelease unit for women for up to 1 year following the birth; establishing the Healthy Start Bonding Program to facilitate strong bonds between incarcerated women and their children; and requiring the Division to allow liberal visitation between certain individuals and certain children under certain circumstances.	Carter	In the Senate - Hearing 2/07 at 2:00 p.m.	Judicial Proceedings Wed 2/7 2:00 PM		FYI	FYI

* Please Note: Dr. Harbhajan Ajrawat, MD and Dr. Marie-Alberte Boursiquot, MD recused on every vote related to legislation that relates to or will be considered by the Maryland Board of Physicians.*

MedChi Report

Bill	Title	Synopsis	Sponsor	Status	Origin	Opposite	Position	Subcom
SB 93 (HB 110)	Health Insurance - Utilization Review - Private Review Agents	Requiring that certain criteria and standards used by private review agents for health insurance utilization review relating to mental health and substance use disorder benefits meet certain requirements; requiring a private review agent to take certain actions before issuing an adverse decision; and specifying the procedure for private review agents to follow when making decisions related to mental health and substance use disorder benefits.	Augustine	In the Senate - First Reading Finance	Finance		No Position	HI
SB 103 (HB 295)	Overdose Awareness Day	Requiring the Governor annually to proclaim August 31 as Overdose Awareness Day.	Jackson	In the Senate - First Reading Education, Energy, and the Environment	Education, Energy, and the Environment		FYI	FYI
SB 117 (HB 96)	Health - Newborn Screening Program - Krabbe Leukodystrophy	Requiring that the Maryland Department of Health's newborn screening system include screening for Krabbe leukodystrophy.	Bailey	In the Senate - First Reading Finance	Finance		FYI	FYI
SB 119	Legally Protected Health Care - Gender-Affirming Treatment	Altering the definition of "legally protected health care" to include certain gender-affirming treatment, including medications and supplies, for the purposes of certain provisions of law that prohibit health occupations disciplinary actions and certain actions in criminal and civil proceedings and the use of certain resources in furtherance of certain investigations and proceedings related to legally protected health care.	Lam	In the Senate - Hearing 2/15 at 1:00 p.m.	Finance Thu 2/15 1:00 PM		Support	PH

* Please Note: Dr. Harbhajan Ajrawat, MD and Dr. Marie-Alberte Boursiquot, MD recused on every vote related to legislation that relates to or will be considered by the Maryland Board of Physicians.*

MedChi Report

Bill	Title	Synopsis	Sponsor	Status	Origin	Opposite	Position	Subcom
SB 124 (HB 400)	Maryland Medical Assistance Program and Health Insurance - Annual Behavioral Health Wellness Visits - Coverage and Reimbursement	Requiring the Maryland Medical Assistance Program and certain health insurers, nonprofit health service plans, and health maintenance organizations to provide coverage and certain reimbursement for annual behavioral health wellness visits.	Augustine	In the Senate - Hearing 2/13 at 1:00 p.m.	Finance Tue 2/13 1:00 PM		Support	HI
SB 142	Genetic Testing - Prohibitions on Disability, Life, and Long-Term Care Insurance (Genetic Testing Protection Act of 2024)	Prohibiting insurance carriers that offer life insurance, long-term care insurance, and disability insurance policies or contracts from taking certain action regarding coverage based on whether an applicant or a policy or contract holder has requested or undergone genetic testing or the results of the genetic testing.	Klausmeier	In the Senate - Hearing 1/31 at 1:00 p.m.	Finance Wed 1/31 1:00 PM		Support	HI
SB 144 (HB 153)	Medical Records - Fees - Attorneys Representing Patients	Adding an attorney representing a patient to the list of individuals to whom a health care provider is prohibited from charging a fee for providing copies of a medical record that will be used for the purpose of filing a claim regarding or appealing a denial of Social Security disability income or Social Security benefits.	Hettleman	In the Senate - Hearing 1/31 at 1:00 p.m.	Finance Wed 1/31 1:00 PM		Support with Amendment	BC

* Please Note: Dr. Harbhajan Ajrawat, MD and Dr. Marie-Alberte Boursiquot, MD recused on every vote related to legislation that relates to or will be considered by the Maryland Board of Physicians.*

MedChi Report

Bill	Title	Synopsis	Sponsor	Status	Origin	Opposite	Position	Subcom
SB 165 (HB 204)	Education - Coaches - Mental Health Training	Requiring the State Department of Education to develop guidelines for public schools and the Maryland Higher Education Commission to develop guidelines for public institutions of higher education to train coaches to recognize indicators of mental illness and behavioral distress in students who participate in athletic programs in public schools and public institutions of higher education; requiring public schools and public institutions that offer athletic programs to provide a certain training to coaches; etc.	Hettleman	In the Senate - Hearing 1/17 at 3:00 p.m.	Education, Energy, and the Environment Wed 1/17 3:00 PM		Support	PH
SB 167	Physician Assistants - Revisions (Physician Assistant Modernization Act of 2024)	Requiring that a physician assistant have a collaboration agreement, rather than a delegation agreement, in order to practice as a physician assistant; altering the scope of practice of a physician assistant; altering the education required for licensure as a physician assistant; and authorizing physician assistants who are employees of the federal government to perform acts, tasks, or functions as a physician assistant during a certain disaster.	Carozza	In the Senate - First Reading Finance	Finance		Support with Amendment	BC

* Please Note: Dr. Harbhajan Ajrawat, MD and Dr. Marie-Alberte Boursiquot, MD recused on every vote related to legislation that relates to or will be considered by the Maryland Board of Physicians.*

MedChi Report

Bill	Title	Synopsis	Sponsor	Status	Origin	Opposite	Position	Subcom
SB 201	Public Health - Childbirth - Paternity Test	Requiring, when a child is born at a health care facility, the attending physician to offer to the presumed father of the child the option to take a paternity test; requiring that the offer to take a paternity test be made orally and in writing and before a birth certificate form for the child is completed; allowing the presumed father the option to waive the right to take a paternity test or elect to take a paternity test at any time before completion of the child's birth certificate; etc.	Watson	In the Senate - Hearing 2/08 at 1:00 p.m.	Finance Thu 2/8 1:00 PM		FYI	FYI
SB 210	Emergency Medical Services - Paramedics - Immunization Administration - Effective Date	Delaying the effective date to January 1, 2030, of certain provisions of law that repeal the authority of paramedics to administer influenza and 2019CoV immunizations under certain circumstances.	Chair, Finance Committee	In the Senate - Hearing 1/24 at 1:30 p.m.	Finance Wed 1/24 1:30 PM		FYI	FYI
SB 211 (HB 119)	Public Health - Giving Infants a Future Without Transmission (GIFT) Act	Altering certain HIV and syphilis reporting and testing requirements for hospitals and health care providers for pregnant women and newborns, including by requiring that the pregnancy status of certain individuals be included in certain reports and that certain health care providers submit certain blood samples to medical laboratories.	Chair, Finance Committee	In the Senate - Hearing 2/08 at 1:00 p.m.	Finance Thu 2/8 1:00 PM		Support	PH

* Please Note: Dr. Harbhajan Ajrawat, MD and Dr. Marie-Alberte Boursiquot, MD recused on every vote related to legislation that relates to or will be considered by the Maryland Board of Physicians.*

MedChi Report

Bill	Title	Synopsis	Sponsor	Status	Origin	Opposite	Position	Subcom
SB 212	Behavioral Health Advisory Council and Commission on Behavioral Health Care Treatment and Access - Alterations	Altering the membership and terms of members of the Behavioral Health Advisory Council; requiring the Commission on Behavioral Health Care Treatment and Access to meet jointly with the Council; and requiring the Commission, in coordination with the Council, to make recommendations regarding the financing structure and quality oversight necessary to integrate somatic and behavioral health services in the Maryland Medical Assistance Program.	Chair, Finance Committee	In the Senate - Hearing 1/30 at 1:00 p.m.	Finance Tue 1/30 1:00 PM		Support with Amendment	PH
SB 217 (HB 30)	Health Insurance - Conformity With Federal Law	Conforming provisions of State health insurance law with existing federal requirements, including updating effective dates for federal regulations, clarifying federal consumer protection regulations resulting from changes to the federal No Surprises Act, altering the material errors that trigger special enrollment periods, and authorizing the Maryland Health Benefits Exchange to adopt an expanded open enrollment period under certain circumstances.	Chair, Finance Committee	In the Senate - Hearing 1/24 at 1:30 p.m.	Finance Wed 1/24 1:30 PM		FYI	FYI

* Please Note: Dr. Harbhajan Ajrawat, MD and Dr. Marie-Alberte Boursiquot, MD recused on every vote related to legislation that relates to or will be considered by the Maryland Board of Physicians.*

MedChi Report

Bill	Title	Synopsis	Sponsor	Status	Origin	Opposite	Position	Subcom
SB 218 (HB 232)	Physicians and Allied Health Professions - Reorganization and Revisions	Repealing obsolete and redundant language in, clarifying language in, and reorganizing certain provisions of law governing the State Board of Physicians and the regulation of physicians, physician assistants, and allied health professions; altering physician, physician assistant, and allied health professional licensure exceptions for individuals in the service of the federal government; altering the grounds for discipline for physicians, physician assistants, and allied health professionals; etc.	Chair, Finance Committee	In the Senate - Hearing 1/30 at 1:00 p.m.	Finance Tue 1/30 1:00 PM		No Position	BC
SB 220 (HB 42)	Public Health - Public Health Services and Protections - Revisions	Repealing the exceptions that allow the sale, distribution, or purchase of tobacco products, tobacco paraphernalia, and electronic smoking devices to or for certain individuals who are active duty members of the military; authorizing the Maryland Department of Health to reallocate from one county to another county certain projected unspent grant funding relating to cancer to address certain funding needs; altering the duties of the State Council on Child Abuse and Neglect; etc.	Chair, Finance Committee	In the Senate - Hearing 1/30 at 1:00 p.m.	Finance Tue 1/30 1:00 PM		No Position	PH
SB 221 (HB 146)	Health Occupations Boards - Reciprocal Licensure and Certification	Authorizing certain health occupations boards to adopt regulations establishing reciprocity for individuals licensed or certified in another state or jurisdiction.	Chair, Finance Committee	In the Senate - Hearing 1/30 at 1:00 p.m.	Finance Tue 1/30 1:00 PM		No Position	BC

* Please Note: Dr. Harbhajan Ajrawat, MD and Dr. Marie-Alberte Boursiquot, MD recused on every vote related to legislation that relates to or will be considered by the Maryland Board of Physicians.*

MedChi Report

Bill	Title	Synopsis	Sponsor	Status	Origin	Opposite	Position	Subcom
SB 227 (HB 240)	Health Insurance - Cancellation of Individual Health Benefit Plans - Restriction	Prohibiting a carrier from canceling an individual health benefit plan if a policyholder has made a premium payment before the end of the grace period, the amount of the premium payment made is less than the aggregate amount of the net monthly premium due as of the date of the payment, the amount of the deficiency is \$10 or less, and the policyholder pays the remainder of the net monthly premium due within 30 days after a written notice of the deficiency is sent by the carrier.	Chair, Finance Committee	In the Senate - Hearing 1/24 at 1:30 p.m.	Finance Wed 1/24 1:30 PM		FYI	FYI
SB 244 (HB 238)	Public Health - Clean Indoor Air Act - Revisions	Prohibiting vaping in certain indoor areas and certain mass transportation; and requiring that certain signs be posted and maintained in a certain manner in each indoor area open to the public and each public entrance to an indoor area where smoking or vaping is prohibited under the Clean Indoor Air Act.	Chair, Finance Committee	In the Senate - Hearing 2/08 at 1:00 p.m.	Finance Thu 2/8 1:00 PM		Support	PH
SB 246 (HB 127)	Public Health - Nonoccupational Postexposure Prophylaxis (nPEP) Standing Order Program - Establishment	Establishing the Nonoccupational Postexposure Prophylaxis (nPEP) Standing Order Program to authorize pharmacists and health care providers to prescribe or dispense nPEP under certain circumstances; and authorizing the Maryland Department of Health to administer the Program, collect fees necessary for the administration of the Program, and establish guidelines for training related to the Program.	Chair, Finance Committee	In the Senate - Hearing 1/30 at 1:00 p.m.	Finance Tue 1/30 1:00 PM		Oppose	PH

* Please Note: Dr. Harbhajan Ajrawat, MD and Dr. Marie-Alberte Boursiquot, MD recused on every vote related to legislation that relates to or will be considered by the Maryland Board of Physicians.*

MedChi Report

Bill	Title	Synopsis	Sponsor	Status	Origin	Opposite	Position	Subcom
SB 332 (HB 84)	Hospitals and Urgent Care Centers - Sepsis Protocol (Lochlin's Law)	Requiring, on or before January 1, 2025, each hospital and urgent care center in the State to implement an evidence-based protocol for the early recognition and treatment of a patient with sepsis, severe sepsis, or septic shock that is based on generally acceptable standards of care; requiring hospitals and urgent care centers to require periodic training in the implementation of the protocol for staff with direct patient care responsibilities and, as appropriate, for certain staff with indirect patient care responsibilities; etc.	Lewis Young	In the Senate - Hearing 2/15 at 1:00 p.m.	Finance Thu 2/15 1:00 PM		FYI	FYI
SB 347	Medical Cannabis - Employees in Health Care Settings Caring for Qualifying Patients	Authorizing designated medical personnel to administer medical cannabis to qualifying patients only if the cannabis is obtained through the qualifying patients caregiver and is administered in accordance with the certifying provider's written instructions; providing that designated medical personnel are not required to register with the Maryland Cannabis Administration; and exempting designated medical personnel from civil and criminal penalties relating to the administration of medical cannabis.	McKay	In the Senate - Hearing 2/15 at 1:00 p.m.	Finance Thu 2/15 1:00 PM		FYI	FYI

* Please Note: Dr. Harbhajan Ajrawat, MD and Dr. Marie-Alberte Boursiquot, MD recused on every vote related to legislation that relates to or will be considered by the Maryland Board of Physicians.*

MedChi Report

Bill	Title	Synopsis	Sponsor	Status	Origin	Opposite	Position	Subcom
SB 359 (HB 425)	Advanced Practice Registered Nurse Compact	Entering into the Advanced Practice Registered Nurse Compact; establishing criteria for participating states; authorizing an advanced practice registered nurse to practice in a party state under certain scope of practice rules; establishing the Interstate Commission of APRN Compact Administrators and its duties and powers; providing for the amendment of and withdrawal from the Compact; providing that the Compact is contingent on the enacting of substantially similar legislation in six other states; etc.	Hayes	In the Senate - Hearing 2/13 at 1:00 p.m.	Finance Tue 2/13 1:00 PM		Support with Amendment	BC
SB 365 (HB 405)	Family Law - Child Custody Evaluators - Qualifications and Training	Specifying certain qualifications and training necessary for an individual to be appointed or approved by a court as a custody evaluator; and specifying that certain expert evidence is admissible in certain child custody and visitation proceedings under certain circumstances.	Carozza	In the Senate - Hearing 2/08 at 1:00 p.m.	Judicial Proceedings Thu 2/8 1:00 PM		No Position	BC

* Please Note: Dr. Harbhajan Ajrawat, MD and Dr. Marie-Alberte Boursiquot, MD recused on every vote related to legislation that relates to or will be considered by the Maryland Board of Physicians.*

MedChi Report

Bill	Title	Synopsis	Sponsor	Status	Origin	Opposite	Position	Subcom
SB 388 (HB 340)	Prescription Drug Affordability Board - Authority for Upper Payment Limits and Funding (Lowering Prescription Drug Costs for All Marylanders Act of 2024)	Requiring the Governor in fiscal year 2025 and each fiscal year thereafter to include in the annual budget bill an appropriation of at least \$1,000,000 for the Prescription Drug Affordability Fund which provides funding for the Board; and requiring the Board, under certain circumstances, to establish a process for setting upper payment limits for all purchases and payor reimbursements of prescription drug products in the State that the Board determines have led or will lead to affordability challenges.	Gile	In the Senate - Hearing 2/07 at 2:00 p.m. (Finance)	Budget and Taxation; Finance Wed 2/7 2:00 PM		Refer to MedChi Board	HI
SB 408 (HB 411)	Public Health - Opioid Overdose Reversal Drugs - Standing Orders	Requiring a licensed health care provider, when issuing a standing order for an opioid reversal drug, to allow an individual to choose any formulation of any opioid reversal drug approved by the federal Food and Drug Administration.	Klausmeier	In the Senate - First Reading Finance	Finance		No Position	PH
SB 443 (HB 403)	End-of-Life Option Act (The Honorable Elijah E. Cummings and the Honorable Shane E. Pendergrass Act)	Authorizing an individual to request aid in dying by making certain requests; establishing requirements and prohibitions governing aid in dying, including requirements related to requests for aid in dying, consulting physicians, mental health assessments, the disposal of drugs prescribed for aid in dying, health care facility policies, and the effect of aid in dying on insurance policies; authorizing a pharmacist to dispense medication for aid in dying only to certain individuals under certain circumstances; etc.	Waldstreicher	In the Senate - Hearing 2/08 at 1:00 p.m.	Judicial Proceedings Thu 2/8 1:00 PM		No Position Per MedChi House of Delegates Resolution	FYI

* Please Note: Dr. Harbhajan Ajrawat, MD and Dr. Marie-Alberte Boursiquot, MD recused on every vote related to legislation that relates to or will be considered by the Maryland Board of Physicians.*

MedChi Report

Bill	Title	Synopsis	Sponsor	Status	Origin	Opposite	Position	Subcom
SB 527 (HB 367)	Community Colleges - Contraception - Access Requirements	Requiring on or before December 1, 2024, each community college to develop and implement a plan to provide students with access to over-the-counter contraception; requiring each community college to submit a certain report to the Maryland Higher Education Commission on or before September 1 each year; requiring the Commission to submit a certain report to the General Assembly by October 1 each year; and authorizing the Maryland Department of Health, on request, to provide certain assistance to a community college.	Kelly	In the Senate - First Reading Education, Energy, and the Environment	Education, Energy, and the Environment		FYI	FYI
SB 538 (HB 83)	Civil Actions - Noneconomic Damages - Personal Injury and Wrongful Death	Repealing certain limitations on noneconomic damages in civil actions for personal injury or wrongful death; and applying the Act prospectively.	Waldstreicher	In the Senate - First Reading Judicial Proceedings	Judicial Proceedings		Oppose	BC

* Please Note: Dr. Harbhajan Ajrawat, MD and Dr. Marie-Alberte Boursiquot, MD recused on every vote related to legislation that relates to or will be considered by the Maryland Board of Physicians.*