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House Health and Government Operations Committee

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House Bill 383 – *Maryland Medical Assistance Program and Health Insurance – Coverage for Orthoses (So Every Body Can Move Act)*

POSITION: SUPPORT

The Maryland State Medical Society (MedChi), the largest physician organization in Maryland, supports House Bill 383. This bill extends Maryland’s current health insurance coverage law on prostheses to include orthoses, which are defined as custom-designed, custom-fabricated, custom-molded, custom-fitted, or modified devices used to treat a neuromuscular or musculoskeletal disorder or acquired condition.

By including orthoses, Maryland’s law will provide more complete coverage to allow individuals a better opportunity to return to physical activities and enable greater independence. By doing so, individuals may be at less risk of developing certain conditions triggered or exacerbated by the lack of physical activity, such as hypertension, diabetes, and vascular disease, which can add higher costs to the health insurance market than the coverage anticipated by House Bill 383.

We ask for a favorable vote on House Bill 383 for these reasons.

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