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Senate Finance Committee

March 3, 2026

Senate Bill 562 – *State Board of Pharmacy – Prescriber-Pharmacists Agreements – Treatment of Opioid Use Disorders*

**POSITION: SUPPORT**

The Maryland State Medical Society (MedChi), the largest physician organization in Maryland, **supports** Senate Bill 562. This bill authorizes physicians and pharmacists to enter into agreements for the treatment of patients suffering from opioid use disorder, expanding access in a way that still ensures proper medical oversight.

Existing law authorizes the use of prescriber-pharmacist agreements wherein protocols are set forth for the treatment of diseases, such as diabetes, which require a physician, podiatrist, or nurse practitioner to prescribe and then allow the pharmacist to modify treatment within certain parameters. Senate Bill 562 allows opioid use disorder to be the subject of these agreements, and for controlled dangerous substances drug therapy to be part of the treatment plan.

This legislation should help ease the difficulty of accessing treatment of opioid use disorders and, importantly, does so in a way that ensures proper oversight from authorized prescribers, including physicians.

For these reasons, MedChi supports Senate Bill 562.

**For more information call:**

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