TO: The Honorable Thomas M. Middleton, Chair
Members, Senate Finance Committee
The Honorable Pam Queen

FROM: Pamela Metz Kasemeyer
J. Steven Wise
Danna L. Kauffman

DATE: March 28, 2017

RE: SUPPORT – House Bill 190 – Mammography Centers – Dense Breast Tissue – Notification of Breast Cancer Screening Options

On behalf of the Maryland State Medical Society and the Maryland Section of the American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, we submit this letter of support for House Bill 190, as amended.

House Bill 190 amends Maryland’s current notice that is required to be included in the screening results letter sent to a patient following a mammography. The notice provision in current law was carefully crafted through legislation passed in 2013. The specific wording of the notice is in statute to ensure that patients are appropriately educated about the possible implications of dense breast tissue without creating a demand for unnecessary testing that is not indicated by an individual patient’s screening results.

The intention of the sponsor is to provide clarification/guidance to a patient that in conferring with her physician about appropriate screening options that those options may include additional testing. As amended, the bill provides that additional clarification without creating an inappropriate assumption that all of the technologies listed in the original version of the bill would be appropriate options for all patients.

The legislation as amended improves the current notice provisions. A favorable report is requested.

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