MEDCHI, THE MARYLAND STATE MEDICAL SOCIETY
HOUSE OF DELEGATES

Resolution 16-17

INTRODUCED BY: Harford County Medical Association

SUBJECT: Certificate of Need Requirement Applicable to Group Model HMOs

Whereas, State law exempts group model HMOs from the certificate of need (CON) requirement for projects to serve their own subscribers unless the project is a hospital or ambulatory surgery center (ASC); and

Whereas, unique considerations regarding hospitals, including Maryland’s Medicare waiver, make it appropriate to require a CON before a new hospital may be established in the State, even if undertaken by a group model HMO; and

Whereas, those same considerations do not apply when a group model HMO undertakes an ASC project, and such projects should be exempt from the CON requirement on the same basis as other non-hospital projects are exempt from the CON requirement if undertaken by a group model HMO; and

Whereas, the CON exemption for ASCs and other non-hospital projects should apply as long as the project will serve the group model HMO’s patients; therefore be it

Resolved, That MedChi urge the Maryland Health Care Commission, which is currently studying the certificate of need issue, to include in its study the issue of whether group model HMOs should be made exempt from the certificate of need process for ambulatory surgical centers and other non-hospital projects that will serve the group model HMO’s patients.

As amended and adopted by the House of Delegates at its meeting on September 23, 2017.