

MEDCHI, THE MARYLAND STATE MEDICAL SOCIETY  
HOUSE OF DELEGATES

Resolution 21-19

INTRODUCED BY: Public Health Committee

SUBJECT: Immunization- Repeal of Religious Exemption

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Whereas, there has been a national decrease in vaccinations; and

Whereas, the United States had more than 1200 cases of measles in 2019, which have led to irreparable harm that could have been prevented; and

Whereas, the rate of unvaccinated children in Maryland has doubled since 2009 and is now over 6,000; and

Whereas, not vaccinating a children per CDC and ACIP recommendations puts not on the child at risk but other children in the community such as those with cancer or a compromised immune system; and

Whereas, a common excuse for not vaccinating a child is to claim a religious exemption for children attending public school; and

Whereas, 4 other states have passed laws removing religious exemption for children attending public schools; therefore it be

Resolved, that MedChi supports a repeal of Maryland's religious exemption for immunization.

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As amended and adopted by the House of Delegates at its meeting on November 2, 2019.