

MEDCHI, THE MARYLAND STATE MEDICAL SOCIETY
HOUSE OF DELEGATES

Resolution 9-19

INTRODUCED BY: Baltimore County Medical Association

SUBJECT: Maintaining Accurate and Current Immunization Records

Whereas, immunization is the most effective method of preventing infectious diseases and vaccination programs generate direct protection and herd protection; and

Whereas, parents decision to delay or reject vaccines for their child put their child and others at risk for fourteen diseases that now can be prevented¹; and

Whereas, reporting to ImmuNet, Maryland's immunization registry – a confidential and secure computer database designed to collect and maintain accurate and current vaccination records – does not track data regarding children who have *not* been immunized; and

Whereas, a principal or other person in charge of a preschool or school, public or private, may not knowingly admit a student to or retain a student unless they have been administered immunizations²; and

Whereas, public health officials have no way to identify children who are not immunized prior to enrollment in a preschool or school; and

Whereas, a record number of measles cases are being reported nationally with an increase from 86 cases in 2016 to 695 cases as of April 24, 2019, an increase of 65 in one week, including four (4) reported cases in Maryland this month³; and

Whereas, this is the greatest number of cases reported in the United States since measles was eliminated from this country in 2000⁴; and

Whereas, this constitutes a disease outbreak⁴; therefore be it

Resolved, that MedChi work to explore a system to report children who have not been immunized prior to enrollment into a preschool or school, public or private, to the Maryland Department of Health.

As amended and adopted by the House of Delegates at its meeting on April 28, 2019.

References

1. Center for Disease Control – <https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/parents/diseases/child/index.html>
2. Code of Maryland Regulations, Maryland Department of Health 10.06.04.03. Required Immunizations.
3. Center for Disease Control – <https://www.cdc.gov/measles/cases-outbreaks.html>
4. CDC Media Statement: Measles cases in the U.S. Media Statement: Wednesday, April 24, 2019
5. Center for Disease Control – <https://www.cdc.gov/measles/cases-outbreaks.html>