

MEDCHI, THE MARYLAND STATE MEDICAL SOCIETY
HOUSE OF DELEGATES

Resolution 20-14

INTRODUCED BY: Baltimore County Medical Association

SUBJECT: Child Safety Seats – Public Education and Awareness

1 Whereas, Maryland has been a leader in legislating safety requirements for the use of seat belts and child safety
2 seats; and
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4 Whereas, Maryland enacted legislation in 2012 that strengthened Maryland’s child safety seat and seat belt laws;
5 and
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7 Whereas, Maryland law requires the use of child safety seats in accordance with child safety seat and
8 manufacturers’ instructions; and
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10 Whereas, the American Academy of Pediatrics recommends that children be placed in rear-facing child safety seats
11 until age 2; and
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13 Whereas, rear-facing has been proven to be five times safer than forward-facing for infants and young toddlers; and
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15 Whereas, manufacturers recognize the American Academy of Pediatrics recommendations in their child safety seat
16 instructions; and
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18 Whereas, the public has not been educated on the importance of rear-facing restraint until age 2; and
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20 Whereas, greater public awareness of the importance of rear-facing restraint until age 2 will save lives and reduce
21 injury; therefore be it
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23 Resolved, that MedChi shall support efforts to increase public education and awareness of the use of rear-facing
24 child safety seats until age 2 and shall urge the State, local jurisdictions and other organizations involved with
25 advancing transportation safety policy to make education of the public on the importance of rear-facing safety seat
26 use a priority; and be it
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28 Resolved, that MedChi’s AMA Delegation urge the AMA to support efforts to require manufacturers to include
29 information about the importance of rear-facing safety seats until two years of age as recommended by the
30 American Academy of Pediatrics.
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32 As amended and adopted by the House of Delegates at its meeting on September 27, 2014.
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