

1 MEDCHI, THE MARYLAND STATE MEDICAL SOCIETY

2 HOUSE OF DELEGATES

3 CB Report 2-15

4 INTRODUCED BY: Council on Bylaws

5 SUBJECT: Conversion of Public Health Committee to Public Health Council

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7 MedChi House of Delegates Resolution 3-15 was passed at the April meeting of the House of Delegates
8 and read as follows:

9 Resolved, that the Board of Trustees of MedChi request that the Bylaws Council **study the possibility of**
10 **amending the MedChi Bylaws to create a MedChi Public Health Council with representation on the**
11 **Board of Trustees and report its conclusions back to the House of Delegates in September 2015.**

12 The “Whereas” clauses supporting this resolution were as follows:

13 Whereas, issues frequently confront the physician community that fall into the realm of public
14 health; and,

15 Whereas, these issues are among the most complex and deserving of detailed scrutiny as any
16 confronting MedChi and the physician community, and,

17 Whereas, MedChi has had a Public Health Committee for many years providing advice and
18 guidance to MedChi leadership on public health issues; and,

19 Whereas, MedChi would benefit by having a voice representing public health “at the table” at
20 every Board of Trustees meeting and this could best be accomplished by creating a Public Health
21 Council with a seat on the Board of Trustees like other councils

22 At its meeting of August 14, 2015, the Bylaws Council discussed the possibility of converting the Public
23 Health Committee into a Council with a seat on the Board of Trustees. Although acknowledging the
24 interest in ensuring that public health concerns receive an appropriate hearing at the highest levels of
25 MedChi, the potential unwieldiness of adding an additional seat (or two, should the common practice of
26 appointing co-chairs occur) to the Board of Trustees was considered by the Bylaws Council.
27 Additionally, it seems inappropriate, as well as impractical, to separate consideration of “public health”
28 issues from the other policy issues that are within the purview of the Medical Policy Council, where the
29 Public Health Committee currently resides.

30 Accordingly, the Bylaws Council determined to recommend that the current council structure be
31 unchanged and that a Public Health Council not be created.

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33 As adopted by the House of Delegates at its meeting on September 19, 2015.