INTRODUCED BY: Montgomery County Medical Society

SUBJECT: Voluntary Physician/Practice Participation in Pre or Prior Authorization

 Whereas, MedChi supported legislation to require all physicians to participate in online prior authorization processing in the 2010 session with good intentions of improving an inefficient process; and

 Whereas, the regulation to mandate all physicians to use online prior authorization became effective as of July 1, 2015; and

 Whereas, the Commission on Health chose not to develop regulations requiring payors to adopt mandatory usage of online prior authorization; and

 Whereas, as a result, there is variance in the adoption of the online prior authorization portal by payors in Maryland with some adopting it and others not choosing to implement the online portal; and

 Whereas, unintended consequences of this requirement have caused disruption of physician practice workflow, online portals do not integrate with all EMRs, which requires work stoppage and delay in being able to complete prior authorization processes, and it is not available to nonparticipating physicians; therefore be it

 Resolved, that MedChi communicate and continue to work with the Maryland Health Care Commission to address physician concerns regarding the electronic prior authorization system, including interoperability issues between the electronic preauthorization system and electronic health records, limitations on non-participating physicians from accessing certain portals, and other work flow and business operations issues.

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