



The Maryland State Medical Society

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TO: The Honorable Maggie McIntosh, Chairman
Members, House Environmental Matters Committee
The Honorable Jeffrey D. Waldstreicher

FROM: Joseph A. Schwartz, III
Pamela Metz Kasemeyer
J. Steven Wise

DATE: February 10, 2009

RE: **SUPPORT** – House Bill 323 – *Texting While Driving Ban of 2009*

The Maryland State Medical Society (MedChi) which represents over 7,200 Maryland physicians and their patients supports House Bill 323.

Several well-publicized automobile deaths attributed to the practice of text messaging while driving clearly illustrates the danger of the activity. There is no conceivable justification for text messaging while driving. It is essentially the same as reading a book or other material, an activity that by its very nature removes one's attention from the road. The increased use of communication devices while driving is cause for great concern but text messaging is particularly dangerous given the need to actually read and/or type information. MedChi strongly urges a favorable report.

For more information call:

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