

MedChi

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TO: The Honorable Maggie McIntosh, Chairman
Members, House Environmental Matters Committee
The Honorable William Bronrott

FROM: Joseph A. Schwartz, III
Pamela Metz Kasemeyer
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DATE: March 9, 2010

RE: **SUPPORT** – House Bill 1030 – *Vehicle Laws – Motor Scooters – Protective Headgear*

The Maryland State Medical Society (MedChi), which represents over 7,300 Maryland physicians and their patients, supports House Bill 1030.

House Bill 1030 extends the current requirement for helmet use with motorcycles to motor scooters. This is a logical extension of a safety requirement that has saved hundreds of lives. A motor scooter travels at much slower speeds than a motorcycle. As a result, many individuals may falsely believe that the risk of serious head injury or death is less for operators of motor scooters than it is for motorcycles. This false assumption of safety results in many scooter operators choosing to forego protective headgear. House Bill 1030 will ensure that motor scooter operators will drive with the same level of protection as motor cycle drivers. MedChi urges a favorable report.

For more information call:

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