

MedChi

The Maryland State Medical Society

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TO: The Honorable Thomas Mac Middleton, Chairman
Members, Senate Finance Committee
The Honorable E.J. Pipkin

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

DATE: March 7, 2012

RE: **SUPPORT** – Senate Bill 817 – *Health Insurance – Reimbursement for Covered Services Rendered by Telemedicine*

The Maryland State Medical Society (MedChi), which represents over 7,600 Maryland physicians and their patients, supports Senate Bill 817.

Senate Bill 817 seeks to require reimbursement for appropriate telemedicine services. MedChi is strongly in favor of requiring reimbursement for appropriate telemedicine, particularly since the Telemedicine Task Force which met during the summer of 2011 has recommended same. In this regard, MedChi would direct the Committee to Senate Bill 781 which deals with the same subject matter.

MedChi believes that the definitions of telemedicine contained in Senate Bill 817 and Senate Bill 781 should be blended together as certain of the provisions relating to insurance companies contained in Senate Bill 781 are more complete than the provisions in Senate Bill 817.

MedChi asks for a favorable report on Senate Bill 817 and Senate Bill 781.

For more information call:

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