

MedChi

The Maryland State Medical Society

1211 Cathedral Street
Baltimore, MD 21201-5516
410.539.0872
Fax: 410.547.0915

1.800.492.1056

www.medchi.org

TO: The Honorable Thomas Mac Middleton, Chairman
Members, Senate Finance Committee

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

DATE: March 14, 2012

RE: **SUPPORT** – Senate Bill 904 – *Maryland Medical Assistance Program – Health Care Delivery Systems – Pilot Project*

The Maryland State Medical Society (MedChi), which represents over 7,600 Maryland physicians and their patients, supports Senate Bill 904.

Senate Bill 904 establishes a pilot project structure for alternative delivery systems within the Medicaid program designed to more efficiently and effectively deliver services to the Medicaid fee for service system enrollees. With passage of federal health care reform, there exist opportunities to develop creative delivery and/or payment systems, including accountable care organizations (ACO), shared-savings models, various medical home models and other creative approaches to improving quality concurrent with achieving cost savings.

Passage of Senate Bill 904 will ensure Maryland remains at the forefront of maximizing its opportunities under federal health reform. It will also provide an opportunity for the State to evaluate models of care that address system challenges which are currently faced in addressing the access and service needs of Maryland's fee for service Medicaid program. MedChi believes there is great potential in these alternative payment and delivery systems and urges the State to move forward with providing the structure for innovations anticipated by this legislation. MedChi urges a favorable report on Senate Bill 904.

For more information call:

Joseph A. Schwartz, III
Pamela Metz Kasemeyer
J. Steven Wise
410-269-1618