

MedChi

The Maryland State Medical Society

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TO: The Honorable Peter A. Hammen, Chairman
Members, House Health & Government Operations Committee
The Honorable Wade Kach

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

DATE: February 27, 2013

RE: **SUPPORT** – House Bill 900 – *Maryland Board of Physicians – Failure to Renew a License or Misrepresentation as a Licensed Person - Penalties*

The Maryland State Medical Society (MedChi), which represents over 7,500 Maryland physicians and their patients, supports House Bill 900.

House Bill 900 provides a physician with a 60 day period following the expiration of his or her license to still apply for renewal without having to re-apply for a new license. The physician is nevertheless subject to a fine for being late with their renewal.

Licenses are valid for a two year period. MedChi supports this measure because there are times when physicians inadvertently fail to renew their licenses in a timely manner at the end of the two years. The physician may be traveling or practicing abroad, have changed addresses and failed to notify the Board, or for some other reason failed to renew.

This legislation resolves an unfortunate but real problem for physician licensees, and provides the Board with a consistent, statutory timeframe within which licensees can still renew. Furthermore, the Board can impose a fine when appropriate.

For these reasons, MedChi supports this legislation.

For more information call:

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