

# MedChi

*The Maryland State Medical Society*

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TO: The Honorable Brian E. Frosh, Chairman  
Members, Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee  
The Honorable Nancy Jacobs

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

DATE: March 13, 2013

RE: **SUPPORT** – Senate Bill 213 – *Emergency Medical Services – Automated External Defibrillators – Immunity from Liability*

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The Maryland State Medical Society (MedChi), which represents over 7,500 Maryland physicians and their patients, supports Senate Bill 213.

Senate Bill 213 makes explicit that any person who uses an Automatic External Defibrillator (AED) is entitled to the same immunity from civil liability as any volunteer who assists an individual in a reasonably prudent manner. AEDs are increasingly present in any number of institutions including schools and health clubs and encouraging their use is in the best interest of all Maryland citizens and particularly those who suffer unexpected and potentially life threatening heart attacks. The present generation of AED machines are easy to understand and use and bills such as Senate Bill 213 will encourage individuals to attempt to revive heart attack victims by assuring that they will not be the subject of civil lawsuits in the event that their attempts are unsuccessful.

MedChi would urge a favorable report of Senate Bill 213.

**For more information call:**

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