

# MedChi

*The Maryland State Medical Society*

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**TO:** The Honorable Joan Carter Conway, Chair  
Members, Senate Education, Health & Environmental Affairs Committee  
The Honorable Roger Manno

**FROM:** Joseph A. Schwartz, III  
Pamela Metz Kasemeyer  
J. Steven Wise  
Danna L. Kauffman

**DATE:** February 18, 2014

**RE:** **SUPPORT** – Senate Bill 700 – *Registration of Pesticides – Fee Increase – Disposition of Fees*

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The Maryland State Medical Society (MedChi), which represents more than 8,000 Maryland physicians and their patients, supports Senate Bill 700.

Senate Bill 700 proposes to raise the pesticide registration fee from \$100 to \$110 in order to create a funding source for the Maryland Department of Agriculture to conduct surveys and do data collection on pesticide use in the State. The bill reflects one of the recommendations of the Pesticide Information and Reporting Workgroup's January 2014 Interim Report. The workgroup was established in 2013 to address various issues relating to data on pesticide use.

The workgroup received testimony from a broad group of stakeholders and one of the conclusions reached as a result of that process was the need for a dedicated funding mechanism for use by the MDA to conduct recommended surveys and data collection. MedChi believes that collecting and analyzing data on pesticide use in the State of Maryland holds great potential to assist in the prevention of negative public health impacts from exposure to pesticides and other health related issues relative to pesticide use. MedChi urges a favorable report.

**For more information call:**

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