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TO: The Honorable Peter A. Hammen, Chair
Members, House Health & Government Operations Committee
The Honorable Anthony O'Donnell

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

DATE: February 3, 2015

RE: **SUPPORT** – House Bill 5 – *Department of Health and Mental Hygiene –
Newborn Screening Program Fund - Establishment*

On behalf of the Maryland State Medical Society (MedChi) and the Maryland Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics (MDAAP), we support House Bill 5.

House Bill 5 seeks to establish a funding mechanism for the newborn screening program. As this Committee has heard, as a result of various initiatives over the years which sought to add new disorders to the newborn screening program, funding for expansion of the program is often a barrier. We are hopeful that if there is a designated fund to provide the necessary resources, it will facilitate the addition of new disorders to the screening panel when recommended by the State Advisory Council on Heredity and Congenital Disorders. A favorable report is requested.

For more information call:

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