

MedChi

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TO: The Honorable Thomas M. Middleton, Chair
Members, Senate Finance Committee

FROM: J. Steven Wise
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DATE: February 26, 2015

RE: **SUPPORT** – Senate Bill 596 – *Health Care Facilities – Surveys, Inspections, and External Reviews*

The Maryland State Medical Society (MedChi), which represents more than 8,000 Maryland physicians and their patients, supports Senate Bill 596.

Senate Bill 596 sets requirements for the survey of certain facilities such as freestanding ambulatory care facilities, home health agencies, nursing homes and HMO's are also covered by the legislation. For the most part, the survey frequency will be made to mirror federal regulations, although with regard to freestanding birthing centers there is no federal requirement so the current practice of annual surveys is codified by Senate Bill 596.

In short, Senate Bill 596 either mirrors federal regulations for surveys or codifies existing practice. For these reasons, MedChi supports Senate Bill 596.

For more information call:

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