

MedChi

The Maryland State Medical Society

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February 22, 2018

The Honorable Shane E. Pendergrass
Chair, House Health and Government Operations Committee
Room 240
Lowe House Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

RE: **House Bill 726:** *Maryland Department of Health – Basic Health Program – Implementation*
House Bill 1167: *Protect Maryland Health Care Act of 2018*

Dear Chair Pendergrass:

The Maryland State Medical Society (MedChi), the largest physician organization in Maryland, on behalf of their members and their patients, provides this letter of information on the above-referenced bills. MedChi recognizes that the stabilization of the individual health insurance market to ensure that individuals continue to have access to health care services is a complex and challenging issue. At this time, MedChi does not have a formal position on the above-referenced bills; however, we remain committed to working with the General Assembly and providing assistance as needed.

As the General Assembly continues discussion on this issue, please find attached the American Medical Association's issue brief on "*Improving the Health Insurance Marketplace*," which contains key components for your consideration, including the continuation of high-risk pools and reinsurance policies.

Thank you and please let me know if MedChi can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,



Gene M. Ransom, III
Chief Executive Officer

cc: Members, House Health and Government Operations Committee