

# MedChi

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TO: The Honorable Shane E. Pendergrass, Chair  
Members, House Health and Government Operations Committee  
The Honorable Jheanelle K. Wilkins

FROM: Danna L. Kauffman  
Pamela Metz Kasemeyer  
J. Steven Wise  
Richard A. Tabuteau

DATE: February 7, 2019

RE: **SUPPORT** – House Bill 86 – *Health Insurance – Continuation Coverage – Change in Employment Status*

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The Maryland State Medical Society (MedChi), the largest physician organization in Maryland, **supports** House Bill 86, which changes the time frame for the continuation of coverage from 18 months to 36 months.

Increasing the timeframe will provide another coverage option for individuals who have been terminated from their current employment. It is important to note that this change will not have a negative impact on employers given that the premiums are paid fully by the terminated employee and the employer may charge an administrative fee (provided for in statute).

Given the importance of ensuring that individuals can maintain health insurance coverage, MedChi urges a favorable report of House Bill 86.

**For more information call:**

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