

MedChi

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TO: The Honorable Shane E. Pendergrass, Chair
Members, House Health and Government Operations Committee
The Honorable Neil Parrott

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

DATE: March 14, 2019

RE: **OPPOSE** – House Bill 989 – *Health Insurance – Multi-Carrier Common Online Provider Directory Information Systems – Designation and Acceptance of Information*

The Maryland State Medical Society (MedChi), the largest physician organization in Maryland, **opposes** House Bill 989, which would only allow a carrier to accept updated provider directory information from a multi-carrier common online provider directory information system. Over the last few years, Maryland has diligently worked to ensure the adequacy of provider networks. A component of this effort is to also ensure that directories contain the most up-to-date provider information. Providers should not be limited in the mode for providing this information, especially given the fact that the fiscal note states that the Maryland Insurance Administration has not yet designated a multi-carrier common online provider directory information system. Therefore, it would be premature to repeal the ability of a provider to update information directly to the carrier.

For these reasons, MedChi requests an unfavorable vote.

For more information call:

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