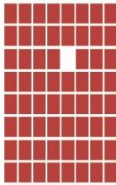




The Maryland State Medical Society

1211 Cathedral Street
Baltimore, MD 21201-5516
410.539.0872
Fax: 410.547.0915
1.800.492.1056
www.medchi.org

1211 Cathedral Street
Baltimore, MD 21201-5585
410-727-2237
e-mail: mdacep@aol.com
www.mdacep.org



Maryland Chapter
AMERICAN COLLEGE OF
EMERGENCY PHYSICIANS



ACOG
The American College of
Obstetricians and Gynecologists
Maryland Section

TO: The Honorable Bobby A. Zirkin, Chair
Members, Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee
The Honorable Robert Cassilly

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

DATE: February 14, 2019

RE: **SUPPORT** – Senate Bill 323 – *Medical Malpractice – Discovery*

On behalf of the Maryland State Medical Society (MedChi), the Maryland Chapter of the American College of Emergency Physicians (MDACEP), and the Maryland Section of the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (MDACOG), we **support** Senate Bill 323.

Senate Bill 323 makes two principal changes to the statute governing healthcare malpractice claims. First, it specifies that a deposition is allowed on the basis of the certificate of qualified expert filed by the claimant. Second, it prohibits a deposition of a defendant from occurring until the plaintiff has filed the certificate of qualified expert. In this way, it saves the defendant from the time and costs associated with a deposition until the plaintiff has met the threshold requirement of having an expert attest that there was a departure from the standard of care.

For these reasons, the above-named organizations support Senate Bill 323.

For more information call:

J. Steven Wise
Pamela Metz Kasemeyer
Danna L. Kauffman
Richard A. Tabuteau
410-244-7000