TO: The Honorable Sheila E. Hixson, Chairman
     Members of the House Committee on Ways and Means

FROM: Joseph A. Schwartz, III
       Pamela Metz Kasemeyer
       J. Steven Wise

DATE: February 18, 2009

RE: SUPPORT – House Bill 340 – *Income Tax Credit for Services Donated to
     Community Health Organizations*

The Maryland State Medical Society (MedChi) which represents over 6,500
Maryland physicians and their patients supports House Bill 340.

House Bill 340 seeks to develop a program whereby 501(c)(3) charitable
community health organizations may take advantage of tax credits that have been
annually allocated by the state. The program is administered by the Department of
Health and Mental Hygiene. Under the bill, tax credits could be allocated to health
professionals who donate their time to these community organizations.

While MedChi strongly encourages all its members to provide charitable
assistance to community organizations, there are undoubtedly many organizations
who have difficulty finding sufficient numbers of health care professionals to meet
the needs of the organization. The proposed programs would provide a community
organization with an additional tool to secure those health professionals it needs to
complete its mission.

MedChi believes House Bill 340 will be beneficial to those professionals
and organizations who are committed to serving the needs of the uninsured and
disadvantaged. MedChi urges a favorable report.

For further information call:
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