TO: The Honorable Peter A. Hammen, Chairman
      Members, House Health & Government Operations Committee
      The Honorable Richard Colburn

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

DATE: April 4, 2013

RE: SUPPORT – Senate Bill 151 – Hospitals – Outpatient Services – Off-Site Facility – Rate Regulation

The Maryland State Medical Society (MedChi), which represents over 7,500 Maryland physicians and their patients, supports Senate Bill 151.

Senate Bill 151 is, in reality, a “local” bill to allow the sale of endoscopy facilities by Shore Health to private practice physicians. In effect, these facilities would be removed from the rate setting review of the Health Services Cost Review Commission and sold to private practice physicians. “Regulated” space would be turned into “non-regulated” space.

MedChi is aware that this particular transaction has been under discussion for a considerable period of time and supports the efforts of private practice physicians to provide these services in their local community. MedChi would urge a favorable report on Senate Bill 151.

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