TO: The Honorable Thomas M. Middleton, Chair
     Members, Senate Finance Committee

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

DATE: February 26, 2015

RE: SUPPORT – Senate Bill 596 – Health Care Facilities – Surveys, Inspections, and
     External Reviews

The Maryland State Medical Society (MedChi), which represents more than 8,000 Maryland
physicians and their patients, supports Senate Bill 596.

Senate Bill 596 sets requirements for the survey of certain facilities such as freestanding
ambulatory care facilities, home health agencies, nursing homes and HMO’s are also covered by
the legislation. For the most part, the survey frequency will be made to mirror federal
regulations, although with regard to freestanding birthing centers there is no federal requirement
so the current practice of annual surveys is codified by Senate Bill 596.

In short, Senate Bill 596 either mirrors federal regulations for surveys or codifies existing
practice. For these reasons, MedChi supports Senate Bill 596.

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