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 321 – Civil Actions – Offers of Judgement

The Maryland State Medical Society (MedChi), the largest physician organization in Maryland, supports Senate Bill 321.

Currently the statute at issue in this legislation covers only medical malpractice cases, permitting an offer of judgment to be made in such cases. In addition to expanding the offer of judgment to all civil actions, the bill specifies what constitutes costs in the context of making an offer of judgment. Currently, there is no definition of what are to be considered costs in this context and what are not, so the bill provides needed clarification in that regard.

For these reasons, MedChi supports Senate Bill 321.

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