



# Maryland Orthopaedic Association

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February 18, 2020

The Honorable Shane E. Pendergrass  
Chair, House Health and Government Operations Committee  
241 House Office Building  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Chair Pendergrass:

Thank you for the opportunity to write in support of House Bill 576 – Health Occupations – Athletic Trainers – Revisions. The Maryland Orthopaedic Association supports House Bill 576, because it will help promote increased access to quality health care in Maryland.

House Bill 576 expands the settings where Athletic Trainers can practice in Maryland. Currently, the limitations on where athletic trainers can practice means that, for comparable medical issues, some Marylanders can not receive the same care from athletic trainers as others do. It is important to note that House Bill does not expand the scope of practice for athletic trainers. As is the case under current law, athletic trainers practice under the direct supervision of a licensed physician. House Bill 576 simply allows athletic trainers – under the supervision of a licensed physician – to assist public safety personnel, members of the military, and other workers who can benefit from their services.

Thank you for your consideration, and we urge a favorable report on House Bill 576.

Sincerely,

**Board of Directors**  
**Maryland Orthopaedic Association**