

The Maryland State Medical Society 63711 Cathedral Street Baltimore, MD 263701-5516 410.539.0872 Fax: 410.547.0915 1.800.492.1056 www.medchi.org



- TO: The Honorable Pamela Beidle, Chair Members, Senate Finance Committee The Honorable Clarence K. Lam
- FROM: Danna L. Kauffman Pamela Metz Kasemeyer J. Steven Wise Andrew G. Vetter Christine K. Krone

DATE: March 6, 2024

RE: **SUPPORT** – Senate Bill 989 – *Health Insurance* – *Epinephrine Injectors* – *Limits on Cost Sharing (Epinephrine Cost Reduction Act of 2024)* 

On behalf of The Maryland State Medical Society and the Maryland Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics, we submit this letter of **support** for Senate Bill 989. This bill specifies that an entity must limit the total amount a covered individual is required to pay in copayments, coinsurance, and deductibles for a twin-pack of medically necessary prescription epinephrine injectors to not more than \$60, regardless of the type of epinephrine injector needed to fill the covered individual's prescription.

Epinephrine is the only drug that can halt and reverse anaphylaxis – a life threatening reaction to an allergy. Those with allergies susceptible to a reaction are advised to carry two epinephrine autoinjectors and are also encouraged to ensure that the injectors are readily available for them at school or at work. Unfortunately, injectors have a relatively small window of use and generally expire within 12-18 months. The goal of this legislation is to ensure that individuals who need this life-saving drug have access to it and are not priced out from obtaining it. This bill is similar to the bill passed on limiting costs for insulin. MedChi and MDAAP urge a favorable report.

## For more information call:

Danna L. Kauffman Pamela Metz Kasemeyer J. Steven Wise Andrew G. Vetter Christine K. Krone 410-244-7000