

MedChi

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TO: The Honorable Shane E. Pendergrass, Chair
Members, House Health and Government Operations Committee
The Honorable Karen Lewis Young

FROM: J. Steven Wise
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DATE: February 18, 2020

RE: **SUPPORT** – House Bill 576 – *Health Occupations – Athletic Training – Revisions*

The Maryland State Medical Society (MedChi), the largest physician organization in Maryland, **supports** House Bill 576.

This legislation allows an athletic trainer to treat individuals who are not “athletes” and removes certain restrictions on the settings in which the trainer can practice. Importantly, the legislation retains the requirement that the trainer practice “under the supervision of a licensed physician”. This requires the physician to provide ongoing and immediately available instruction to the trainer. The physician and trainer are also required to maintain an “evaluation and treatment protocol” that establishes the terms of the relationship between the two.

Because these safeguards are in place and are retained under this legislation, MedChi supports House Bill 576.

For more information call:

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