

MedChi

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TO: The Honorable Melony Griffith, Chair
Members, Senate Finance Committee
The Honorable Clarence K. Lam

FROM: Christine K. Krone
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RE: **SUPPORT** – Senate Bill 441 – *Maryland Medical Assistance Program – Prescription Digital Therapeutics*

The Maryland State Medical Society (MedChi), the largest physician organization in Maryland, **supports** Senate Bill 441.

Senate Bill 441 requires Medicaid to provide coverage for “prescription digital therapeutics.” It defines “prescription digital therapeutics” as a product, a device, an internet application, or any other technology that: (1) is approved, cleared, or classified by the federal food and drug administration; (2) has an approved or cleared indication for the prevention, management, or treatment of a medical disease, condition, or disorder; (3) primarily uses software to achieve its intended result; and (4) can be dispensed only in accordance with a prescription.

Digital therapeutics are becoming increasingly popular in the delivery of health care. Common digital therapeutics are remote monitoring devices that help patients manage diseases and conditions such as hypertension or diabetes. These remote monitoring devices allow practitioners and patients to perform ongoing virtual monitoring and treatment and have also provided practitioners with more accurate and consistent results. For example, patients with hypertension who experience anxiety leading up to an in-person appointment will yield higher than normal blood pressure results. Remote monitoring allows for an accurate reading while the patient is in the comfort of their own home. Similarly, managing diabetes with blood glucose monitoring can be performed using various types of non-invasive remote patient monitoring devices. Practitioners can use the data captured by a remote blood glucose monitoring device to detect potential alarming changes in glucose levels and take immediate action. Overall, digital therapeutics have the potential to transform the way we deliver healthcare, making it more accessible, personalized, and effective. MedChi urges a favorable report.