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Senate Finance Committee

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Senate Bill 987 – *Artificial Intelligence – Health Software and Health Insurance Decision Making*

POSITION: SUPPORT

The Maryland State Medical Society (MedChi), the largest physician organization in Maryland, supports Senate Bill 987.

This bill would require the Maryland Health Care Commission (MHCC) to maintain a registry of artificial intelligence health software that may be distributed or operated in Maryland. The bill also states that health insurance carriers, as defined in the bill, may not use artificial intelligence (AI) to decide or directly influence a health care decision or a decision directly related to health care.

MedChi supports efforts to regulate AI-controlled processes in patient care and to ensure transparency. The MHCC registry required under the bill, as well as the restriction on the use of AI in health care decisions, help to accomplish that goal in Maryland. We believe that while AI can be used to enhance patient care, streamline processes, and improve diagnostic accuracy, there must be clear regulatory oversight to ensure that AI is not used to replace the expertise of trained medical professionals. Additionally, the registry will provide critical oversight by tracking the deployment of AI used in healthcare in Maryland. This requirement will bring necessary transparency to physicians, patients, and regulators to better understand which AI tools are in use and how they may be influencing medical decisions.

We respectfully request a favorable report of Senate Bill 987.

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