

Liability Insurance Society of Maryland

Bill: House Bill 1437 – Catastrophic Health Emergency – Immunity for Health Care

Providers – Repeal

Date: March 11, 2025

Position: Oppose

Medical Mutual opposes House Bill 1437. House Bill 1437 would repeal the immunity provided to health care providers who act in good faith during a catastrophic health emergency declared by the Governor. Repealing this immunity would discourage health care providers from rendering care in times of enormous stress and uncertainty, such as when dealing with novel diseases or when usual standards of care are unattainable.

This immunity proved essential during the COVID-19 pandemic, when health care providers and hospitals were overwhelmed with critically ill patients and battling against a virus about which very little was known. Even while health care providers across Maryland worried about becoming infected by the virus themselves or infecting their loved ones, they continued to provide critically needed care to impacted Marylanders. The General Assembly should not take action that would have a chilling effect on health care providers in the State.

For these reasons, Medical Mutual respectfully requests an UNFAVORABLE report on House Bill 1437.

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