



Senate Bill 681

Date: February 18, 2025
Committee: Senate Judicial Proceedings
Position: Favorable

Founded in 1968, the Maryland Chamber of Commerce is the leading voice for business in Maryland. We are a statewide coalition of more than 7,000 members and federated partners working to develop and promote strong public policy that ensures sustained economic health and growth for Maryland businesses, employees, and families.

Senate Bill 681 (SB 681) seeks to clarify the definition of “health care provider” under the Maryland Health Care Malpractice Claims Act to include certain hospital employees, agents, or contractors who provide health services.

SB 681 clarifies that individuals providing medical services in hospitals, such as x-ray technicians and respiratory care specialists, are covered under the health care malpractice statute. Currently, these providers are not listed as one of the health professionals under the definition of “health care provider”. By clarifying the definition of “health care provider” to include those providing medical services, the bill ensures a more consistent and fair application of legal standards among all health care professionals working at hospitals.

The Chamber supports this narrow and targeted clarification, as it addresses a gap in the current law without over-extending the definition to non-medical personnel. It aligns with the goal of ensuring that lawsuits against health care providers are handled within the established medical malpractices framework, providing clarity and fairness to all parties involved.

For these reasons, the Maryland Chamber of Commerce respectfully requests a **favorable report** on **SB 681**.