



ADVOCACY DASHBOARD

2017 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Support			
Legislation/Issues	Synopsis	Resources	New This Week/Upcoming Dates
SB 41- State Board of Nursing- Nurse Licensure Compact- Revisions	Changing the name of the Nurse Multistate Licensure Compact to the Nurse Licensure Compact; altering the findings of the party states to the Compact; providing that a multistate license to practice specified types of nursing issued by a home state to a resident in that state will be recognized by each party state for a specified purpose; providing that the party states create and establish a joint public entity known as the Interstate Commission of Nurse Licensure Compact Administrators; etc.	SB 41 MHA's Position Paper on SB 41	<p>MHA submitted written testimony in support of SB 41 before the Health and Environmental Affairs committee on January 25.</p> <p>Passed the Senate Chamber</p>
SB 369/HB 403- Maryland Patient Referral Law- Compensation Arrangements Under Federally Approved Programs and Models	Exempting, under specified circumstances, a health care practitioner who has a specified compensation arrangement with a health care entity from a provision of law that prohibits a health care practitioner from referring a patient or directing specified persons to refer a patient to a specified health care entity; providing that the exemption is null and void if the Maryland Insurance Commissioner issues a specified order; etc.	SB 369 HB 403	<p>Finance Hearing- February 16 at 1:00 p.m.</p> <p>Health & Government Operations Hearing- February 23 at 1:00 p.m.</p>

<p>SB 422/HB 602- Keep Antibiotics Effective Act of 2017</p>	<p>Prohibiting a specified owner of cattle, swine, or poultry from administering or authorizing an agent to administer specified antimicrobial drugs in specified cattle, swine, and poultry without an antimicrobial drug prescription or a veterinary feed directive issued by a licensed veterinarian in accordance with specified conditions; requiring an owner to submit to the State Department of Agriculture a copy of an antimicrobial drug prescription or a veterinary feed directive in a specified manner; etc.</p>	<p>SB 422</p> <p>HB 602</p> <p>MHA's Position Paper on SB 422</p>	<p>Education, Health and Environmental Affairs Hearing- February 14 at 1:00 p.m.</p> <p>Environment & Transportation Hearing- February 15 at 1:00 p.m.</p>
<p>SB 436/HB 683- Income Tax- Credit for Nurse Practitioner or Licensed Physician in Preceptorship Program- Alterations</p>	<p>Altering the application of a specified fee assessed by the Board of Nursing for the renewal of a nurse practitioner who holds an advanced practice certification; altering the number of hours, so that the required minimum of three rotations must consist of at least 120 hours or the requisite number of hours for a completed unit of community- based training, that a specified nurse practitioner or licensed physician must work in a specified preceptorship program in order to qualify for a specified credit against the State income tax; etc.</p>	<p>SB 436</p> <p>HB 683</p>	<p>Budget & Taxation Hearing- February 22 at 1:00 p.m.</p> <p>Ways & Means Hearing- February 22 at 1:00 p.m.</p>
<p>SB 475/HB 984- Developmental Disabilities Administration- Crisis Resolution and Crisis Prevention Services- Funding and Reporting</p>	<p>Requiring a specified report on the Waiting List Equity Fund to include information regarding individuals in the crisis resolution category of the waiting list for developmental disabilities services; establishing mandated appropriations for developmental disabilities community services; declaring the intent of the General Assembly that an individual, after receiving services provided with specified funds, continue to receive uninterrupted developmental disabilities services in accordance with the individual's needs; etc.</p>	<p>SB 475</p> <p>HB 984</p>	<p>Finance Hearing- February 23 at 1:00 p.m.</p> <p>Health & Government Operations Hearing- Hearing not yet assigned.</p>

<p>SB 476/HB 580- Behavioral Health Community Providers- Keep the Door Open Act</p>	<p>Requiring, except under specified circumstances, the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene to adjust the rate of reimbursement for community providers each fiscal year by the rate adjustment included in the State budget for that fiscal year; requiring, on or before December 1, 2019, and on December 1 annually thereafter, the Department to submit a report to the Governor and General Assembly on the impact of the reimbursement rate adjustment on community providers and other specified outcomes; etc.</p>	<p>SB 476</p> <p>HB 580</p>	<p>Jointly Assigned to Finance and Budget & Taxation, Hearing- February 23 at 1:00 p.m.</p> <p>Health & Government Operations Hearing- February 28 at 1:00 p.m.</p>
<p>SB 570/HB 658- Maryland Medical Assistance Program- Telehealth- Requirements</p>	<p>Altering specified coverage and reimbursement requirements for health care services delivered through telemedicine under the Maryland Medical Assistance Program; requiring the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene to provide coverage of and reimbursement for specified health care services that are delivered through telehealth; deeming a health care service provided through telehealth to be equivalent to a specified health care service for a specified purpose; etc.</p>	<p>SB 570</p> <p>HB 658</p>	<p>Finance Hearing- February 23 at 1:00 p.m.</p> <p>Health & Government Operations Hearing- February 23 at 1:00 p.m.</p>
<p>SB 600/HB 775- Public Health- Maternal Mental Health</p>	<p>Requiring the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, in consultation with stakeholders, to identify specified information about perinatal mood and anxiety disorders; requiring the Department to make available specified information on the Department's Web site and to provide specified information to specified health care facilities and health care providers; requiring the Department in collaboration with specified health professional associations to develop specified training programs; etc.</p>	<p>SB 600</p> <p>HB 775</p>	<p>Finance Hearing- March 1 at 1:00 p.m.</p> <p>Health & Government Operations Hearing- February 28 at 1:00 p.m.</p>

<p>SB 633/HB 581- Maryland Medical Practice Act- Individuals Exempt from Licensure- Repeal of Criminal History Records Check Requirement</p>	<p>Repealing the requirement that, in order to practice medicine without a license while performing specified duties, a medical student or an individual in a postgraduate medical training program approved by the State Board of Physicians must submit to a criminal history records check in accordance with a specified provision of law; etc.</p>	<p>SB 633</p> <p>HB 581</p> <p>MHA's Position Paper on HB 581</p>	<p>Education, Health & Environmental Affairs Hearing- February 23 at 1:00 p.m.</p> <p>Health & Government Operations Hearing- February 8 at 1:00 p.m.</p>
<p>SB 783/HB 777- Patient Early Intervention Programs</p>	<p>Providing that a statement made by a party during a discussion held in accordance with a patient safety early intervention program is inadmissible in specified legal proceedings; authorizing a hospital or a related institution to establish a specified patient safety early intervention program; establishing specified requirements for a patient safety early intervention program; applying the Act prospectively; etc.</p>	<p>SB 783</p> <p>HB 777</p>	<p>Judicial Proceedings Hearing- February 23 at 1:00 p.m.</p> <p>Judiciary Hearing- March 8 at 1:00 p.m.</p>
<p>SB 802/HB 604- Courts and Judicial Proceedings- Venue- Health Care</p>	<p>Specifying the venue for the purposes of specified health care proceedings is the county where an alleged negligent act or omission occurred.</p>	<p>SB 802</p> <p>HB 604</p> <p>MHA's Position Paper on HB 604</p>	<p>Judicial Proceedings Hearing- February 23 at 1:00 p.m.</p> <p>Judiciary Hearing- February 15 at 1:00 p.m.</p>
<p>HB 147- Healthy Aging Program</p>	<p>Establishing the Healthy Aging Program in the Department of Aging; specifying the purposes of the Program; providing that funding for the Program shall be as provided in the State budget; authorizing the Secretary of Aging to accept money from specified sources for the Program; authorizing the Secretary to adopt regulations to implement the Program; etc.</p>	<p>HB 147</p> <p>MHA's Position Paper on HB 147</p>	<p>Hearing was cancelled.</p>

HB 847- Maryland Medical Assistance Program- Benefits for Individuals Who Are Incarcerated or Institutionalized	Requiring the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene to provide 6 months of presumptive eligibility for Maryland Medical Assistance Program benefits for individuals on release from incarceration or from an institution for the treatment of mental disease; requiring the Department, in consultation with the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services, to establish a process to train and certify certain staff as presumptive eligibility determiners; etc.	HB 847	Health & Government Operations Hearing- March 2 at 1:00 p.m.
HB 983- Health Insurance- Telemedicine- Counseling for Substance Use Disorders	Requiring the health care services delivered through telemedicine under health insurance to include counseling for substance use disorders; and applying the Act to all policies, contracts, and health benefit plans issued, delivered, or renewed in the State on or after October 1, 2017.	HB 983	Hearing not yet assigned.
Support with Amendments			
Legislation/Issues	Synopsis	Resources	New This Week/Upcoming Dates
SB 172/HB 152- Budget Reconciliation and Financing Act of 2017	Authorizing or altering the distribution of specified revenue; altering or repealing specified required appropriations; authorizing the use of specified funds for specified purposes; altering the Special Fund from which a specified racing purse and a related bonus award program is funded; providing a specified amount of aid to specified institutions; altering a specified rate increase for community service providers; limiting increases in specified mandated spending; etc.	SB 172 HB 152	Budget & Taxation Hearing- March 1 at 1:00 p.m. Appropriations Hearing- February 28 at 3:00 p.m.

SB 349/HB 255- Criminal Procedure- Sexual Assault Victims’ Rights- Disposal of Rape Kit Evidence and Notification	Requiring a specified health care provider to provide a specified victim of sexual assault with written information describing the laws and policies governing the testing, preservation, and disposal of a sexual assault evidence collection kit; prohibiting a law enforcement agency, government agency, or health care provider from destroying or disposing of a sexual assault evidence collection kit or other crime scene evidence relating to a sexual assault within 20 years after the evidence is collected; etc.	SB 349 HB 255 MHA’s Position Paper on SB 349	MHA submitted written testimony before the Judicial Proceedings committee on February 8. Judiciary Hearing- February 21 at 1:00 p.m.
HB 352- Health Care Practitioners- Use of Teletherapy	Authorizing specified health care practitioners to use teletherapy for a specified patient; establishing specified requirements for the technology a health care practitioner uses for teletherapy; requiring a health care practitioner to make a specified identification and establish a safety protocol that includes specified information before the first teletherapy session; defining teletherapy as the use of specified telecommunications or electronic technology to deliver behavioral health services under specified circumstances; etc.	HB 352 MHA’s Position Paper on HB 352	MHA testified in support of HB 352 with amendments before the Health & Government Operations committee on February 8.
Oppose			
Legislation/Issues	Synopsis	Resources	New This Week/Upcoming Dates
SB 144- Civil Actions- Pre-Litigation Discovery of Insurance Coverage	Making specified provisions of law authorizing the pre-litigation discovery of specified insurance coverage information relating to claims involving vehicle accidents applicable to claims involving any tort; making conforming changes; and providing for the prospective application of the Act.	SB 144 MHA’s Position Paper on SB 144	MHA testified in opposition to SB 144 before the Judicial Proceedings committee on January 26.

SB 195- Physicians- Licensure- Liability Coverage (Janet's Law)	Requiring licensed physicians to maintain specified minimum amounts of professional liability insurance or attest to specified coverage as a condition of licensure and comply with specified regulations; requiring a licensed physician to notify the State Board of Physicians of the cancellation of the insurance or coverage within a specified time period; requiring a physician to provide the Board with specified verification or documentation on a specified application and at any other time on request of the Board; etc.	SB 195 MHA's Position Paper on SB 195	MHA submitted written testimony in opposition on SB 195 before the Education, Health and Environmental Affairs committee on February 1.
SB 225- Civil Actions- Noneconomic Damages- Catastrophic Injury	Altering the maximum amount of noneconomic damages that may be recovered in health care malpractice and other civil actions for a catastrophic injury under specified circumstances; etc.	SB 225 MHA's Issue Paper on Medical Liability	Hearing has been cancelled. Bill withdrawn.
SB 379/HB 932- Hospital- Changes in Status- Hospital Employee Retraining and Economic Impact Statements	Requiring a hospital that voluntarily converts to a freestanding medical facility or is acquired by another hospital or health system to pay a fee directly to the Department of Labor, Licensing, and Regulation if workers are displaced; prohibiting the fee from exceeding a 0.01 percent of the total revenue approved by the Health Services Cost Review Commission for a specified fiscal year; limiting the number of times the fee may be assessed; etc.	SB 379 HB 932	MHA testified before the Finance committee on February 9. Health & Government Operations Hearing- March 2 at 1:00 p.m.

SB 623/HB 921- Hospitals- Community Benefit Report-Disclosure of Tax Exemptions	Requiring a hospital to include an itemization of the value of all tax exemptions the hospital receives in the hospital's community benefit report.	SB 623 HB 921	Finance Hearing- March 2 at 1:00 p.m. Health & Government Operations Hearing- March 2 at 1:00 p.m.
SB 660/HB 808- Hospitals- Patient's Bill of Rights	Providing it is the intent of the General Assembly to promote the health, safety, and well-being of patients and to foster communication between patients and health care providers; requiring each administrator of a hospital to provide patients with a specified patient's bill of rights; requiring each administrator of a hospital to provide translators or an interpreter for specified patients; requiring each administrator of a hospital to conspicuously post copies of the patient's bill of rights in specified areas; etc.	SB 660 HB 808	Finance Hearing- March 2 at 1:00 p.m. Health & Government Operations Hearing- March 2 at 1:00 p.m.
SB 682/HB 1459- Civil Actions- Noneconomic Damages	Increasing the maximum amount of noneconomic damages that may be recovered in specified wrongful death actions or survival actions arising on or after October 1, 2017; providing that a jury may be informed of specified limitations on noneconomic damages in specified civil actions.	SB 682 HB 1459	Judicial Proceedings Hearing- February 23 at 1:00 p.m. Judiciary- Hearing not yet assigned.

SB 836- Civil Actions- Punitive Damage Awards	Providing that punitive damages may be awarded in a civil action only if the plaintiff proves by clear and convincing evidence that the defendant acted with wantonness, fraud, or malice; requiring a trier of fact to consider a defendant's liability for punitive damages concurrently with other specified issues; requiring a trier of fact to determine the amount of punitive damages to be awarded based on specified factors under specified circumstances; applying the Act prospectively; etc.	SB 836	Judicial Proceedings Hearing- February 23 at 1:00 p.m.
HB 515- Hospitals- Establishment of Substance Use Treatment Program- Requirements	Requiring specified hospitals to establish a specified substance use treatment program; providing that the purpose of the program is to identify patients in need of substance use treatment and, if appropriate, admit the patient or, if admission is not required, to direct the patient to an outpatient treatment setting; requiring specified hospitals to operate or contract to operate specified substance use treatment units or to refer specified patients to a specified treatment unit; etc.	HB 515	Health & Government Operations Hearing- February 21 at 1:00 p.m.
HB 1053- Integrated Community Oncology Reporting Program	Establishing the integrated community oncology reporting program; establishing the purpose of the program; requiring the program to be administered by the Maryland Health Care Commission; establishing a specified exception to a specified prohibition against self-referrals by specified health care practitioners and authorizing specified health care practitioners to use a specified exemption for a specified period of time; etc.	HB 1053	Health & Government Operations- Hearing not yet assigned.