



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 MHA's Position Paper on SB 369	<p>MHA testified in support of SB 369 before the Finance committee on February 16.</p> <p>Health & Government Operations Hearing- February 23 at 1:00 p.m.</p>

SB 422/HB 602- Keep Antibiotics Effective Act of 2017	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.	SB 422 HB 602 MHA's Position Paper on SB 422	MHA submitted written testimony in support of SB 422 to the Education, Health and Environmental Affairs Hearing on February 14. MHA submitted written testimony in support of HB 602 to the Environment & Transportation committee on February 15.
SB 436/HB 683- Income Tax- Credit for Nurse Practitioner or Licensed Physician in Preceptorship Program- Alterations	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.	SB 436 HB 683 MHA's Position Paper on SB 436	Budget & Taxation Hearing- February 22 at 1:00 p.m. Ways & Means Hearing- February 22 at 1:00 p.m.
SB 475/HB 984- Developmental Disabilities Administration- Crisis Resolution and Crisis Prevention Services- Funding and Reporting	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.	SB 475 HB 984	Finance Hearing- February 23 at 1:00 p.m. Health & Government Operations Hearing- March 14 at 1:00 p.m.

<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>MHA's Position Paper on SB 570</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>MHA's Position Paper on SB 600</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>MHA submitted written testimony in support of HB 581 before the Health & Government Operations committee on February 8.</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>MHA's Position Paper on SB 783</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>MHA testified in support of HB 604 before the Judiciary committee on February 15.</p>
<p>SB 868/HB 791- Overdose Response Program- Prescribing and Dispensing of Naloxone- Noncertificate Holders</p>	<p>Notwithstanding specified provisions of law, authorizing a specified physician or a specified advanced practice nurse to prescribe and dispense naloxone to individuals who have not completed specified training; authorizing, notwithstanding specified provisions of law, a specified physician or a specified advanced practice nurse to prescribe and dispense naloxone to individuals who have not completed specified training by issuing a standing order under specified circumstances; etc.</p>	<p>SB 868</p> <p>HB 791</p>	<p>Finance Hearing- March 16 at 1:00 p.m.</p> <p>Health & Government Operations- February 21 at 1:00 p.m.</p>

SB 877/HB 1347- Maryland No-Fault Birth Injury Fund	Establishing a system for adjudication of a claim involving a birth-related neurological injury; providing equitable compensation, on a no-fault basis, for a limited class of catastrophic injuries that result in unusually high costs for custodial care and rehabilitation; establishing the Maryland No-Fault Birth Injury Fund to provide compensation and benefits to eligible claimants; providing for specified premiums and insurance surcharges to be used to finance and administer the Fund; applying the...	SB 877 HB 1347	Judicial Proceedings Hearing- February 23 at 1:00 p.m. Health & Government Operations Hearing- March 10 at 1:00 p.m.
SB 968/HB 1127- Health Insurance- Coverage Requirements for Behavioral Health Disorders- Modifications	Altering specified coverage requirements applicable to specified health benefit plans for the diagnosis and treatment of mental illness and emotional, drug use, and alcohol use disorders; etc.	SB 968 HB 1127	Finance Hearing- March 8 at 1:00 p.m. Health & Government Operations Hearing- Not yet assigned
SB 1060/HB 1082- Heroin and Opioid Education and Community Action Act of 2017 (Start Talking Maryland Act)	Requiring the Administrative Office of the Courts to assess drug court programs to determine how to increase and expand the programs; requiring county boards of education and specified institutions of higher education to establish heroin and opioid addiction and prevention policies; prohibiting school nurses, campus police, and health personnel at institutions who respond to an overdose emergency from being held personally liable when having been properly trained and acting in good faith; etc.	SB 1060 HB 1082	Education, Health & Environmental Affairs Hearing- March 8 at 1:00 p.m. Health & Government Operations Hearing- March 7 at 1:00 p.m.

<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>Favorable report by Health & Government Operations Committee.</p> <p>Second Reading Passed in the House</p>
<p>HB 847- Maryland Medical Assistance Program- Benefits for Individuals Who Are Incarcerated or Institutionalized</p>	<p>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.</p>	<p>HB 847</p>	<p>Health & Government Operations Hearing- March 2 at 1:00 p.m.</p>
<p>HB 983- Health Insurance- Telemedicine- Counseling for Substance Use Disorders</p>	<p>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.</p>	<p>HB 983</p>	<p>Hearing not yet assigned.</p>
<p>HB 988- Licensed Pharmacists- Risks of Opioid Addiction- Notifications</p>	<p>Requiring a licensed pharmacist, if an opioid is dispensed by a licensed pharmacist or an individual engaging in a professional experience program and acting under the direct supervision of a licensed pharmacist, to notify the individual to whom the opioid is dispensed of the risks of opioid addiction; and providing that the notice may be made orally or in writing.</p>	<p>HB 988</p>	<p>Hearing not yet assigned.</p>

HB 1379- Courts-Criminal and Civil Immunity-Prescribing, Dispensing, and Administering Opioid Antagonists	Providing that a health care provider, under specified circumstances, is not criminally or civilly liable for prescribing, dispensing, or administering an opioid antagonist to treat or prevent a drug overdose or any adverse effect arising from the use of a specified opioid antagonist; providing that an individual who is not a health care provider is not criminally or civilly liable for specified effects arising from the individual administering an opioid antagonist under specified circumstances; etc...	HB 1379	Judiciary Hearing- February 28 at 1:00 p.m.
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.

SB 571/HB 909- Maryland Health Insurance Coverage Protection Act	Establishing the Maryland Health Insurance Coverage Protection Commission; providing the purpose of the Commission is to conduct an assessment of the impact of potential federal changes to specified health care programs and to provide recommendations for State and local action to protect access of residents of the State to affordable health coverage; requiring the Commission to report its findings to the Governor and General Assembly by December 31, 2017; etc.	SB 571 HB 909	Finance Hearing- March 1 at 1:00 p.m. Health & Government Operations Hearing- Hearing not yet assigned
SB 734/HB 1209- Sexual Assault Victims Resources Act of 2017	Expanding the services to be provided by specified sexual assault crisis programs; specifying criteria for receiving specified grant funding; requiring the Governor to include \$3,000,000 each fiscal year in the State budget; providing for the allocation of specified grant money; stating specified findings of the General Assembly; establishing the Maryland Sexual Assault Evidence Kit Policy and Funding Committee; requiring Attorney General to adopt specified regulations in consultation with the Committee;...	SB 734 HB 1209	Budget & Taxation Hearing- March 7 at 1:00 p.m. Appropriations Hearing- March 2 at 3:00 p.m.
SB 1106/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.	SB 1106 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. Senate Rules- Hearing not assigned

HB 736- Workgroup to Recommend Possible Reforms to Maryland’s Health Care System	Requiring the Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene, under specified circumstances, to convene a workgroup to recommend possible reforms to the State's health care system; requiring that the workgroup include specified individuals; requiring the workgroup, under specified circumstances, to study and assess specified matters and make specified recommendations; etc.	HB 736	Health & Government Operations- Hearing not yet assigned
HB 1076- Criminal Procedure- Sexual Assault Evidence Collection Kits- Analysis	Requiring a specified law enforcement agency to submit a sexual assault evidence collection kit to a forensic laboratory for analysis within 30 days of receipt, to notify the victim when the kit was sent and of the results of the analysis, to utilize community-based sexual assault victim service organizations, and ensure privacy protections; requiring a specified forensic laboratory to take specified actions within 150 days; requiring the development of specified policies and procedures;	HB 1076	Judiciary Hearing- February 21 at 1:00 p.m.
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.

<p>SB 195/HB 957- Physicians- Licensure- Liability Coverage (Janet’s Law)</p>	<p>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.</p>	<p>SB 195</p> <p>HB 957</p> <p>MHA’s Position Paper on SB 195</p>	<p>MHA submitted written testimony in opposition on SB 195 before the Education, Health and Environmental Affairs committee on February 1.</p> <p>Health & Government Operations Hearing- March 8 at 1:00 p.m.</p>
<p>SB 225- Civil Actions- Noneconomic Damages- Catastrophic Injury</p>	<p>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.</p>	<p>SB 225</p> <p>MHA’s Position Paper on SB 225</p>	<p>Hearing has been cancelled. Bill withdrawn.</p>
<p>SB 379/HB 932- Hospital- Changes in Status- Hospital Employee Retraining and Economic Impact Statements</p>	<p>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.</p>	<p>SB 379</p> <p>HB 932</p> <p>MHA’s Position Paper on SB 379</p>	<p>MHA testified before the Finance committee on February 9.</p> <p>Health & Government Operations Hearing- March 2 at 1:00 p.m.</p>

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 MHA's Position Paper on SB 682	Judicial Proceedings Hearing- February 23 at 1:00 p.m. Judiciary Hearing- March 8 at 1:00 p.m.

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 MHA's Position Paper on SB 836	Judicial Proceedings Hearing- February 23 at 1:00 p.m.
SB 1037- Health Care Malpractice Qualified Expert- Limitation on Testimony in Personal Injury Claims- Repeal	Repealing the requirement that a health care provider who attests in a certificate of a qualified expert or who testifies in relation to a proceeding before an arbitration panel or a court concerning compliance with or departure from standards of care devote no more than 20% of the provider's professional activities to activities that directly involve testimony in personal injury claims.	SB 1037	Senate Rules- Hearing not assigned
HB 189- Hospitals- Substance Use Treatment Demonstration Program- Requirements	Authorizing up to five hospitals in the State to participate in a substance use treatment demonstration program; providing that the purpose of the demonstration program is to identify best practices to identify patients potentially in need of treatment, screen patients, and refer patients in need of substance use treatment to specified services; requiring each participating hospital to operate an inpatient and outpatient substance use treatment program or ensure that specified treatment services	HB 189	Health & Government Operations Hearing- February 21 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 661- Public Health- Suspected Overdoses- Reporting Requirement	Requiring specified individuals who treat or are in charge of a hospital that treats an individual for a suspected overdose that was caused or shows evidence of having been caused by a Schedule I controlled dangerous substance to notify the county sheriff, or the county police in a specified county, or the Department of State Police of the suspected overdose within 48 hours after the individual is treated; requiring that a report of a suspected overdose include specified information; and establishing...	HB 661	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- March 8 at 1:00 p.m.