



ADVOCACY DASHBOARD

2018 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Support			
Legislation/Issues	Synopsis	Resources	New This Week/Upcoming Dates
SB 211- Behavioral Health Programs - Medical Directors - Telehealth	Requiring that regulations adopted under certain provisions of law regulating behavioral health programs include provisions authorizing a medical director of a behavioral health program located in a federally designated health professional shortage area to provide services through telehealth, and prohibiting a behavioral health program located in a federally designated health professional shortage area from requiring a medical director to provide services onsite.	SB 211 MHA's Position Paper on SB 211	MHA submitted written testimony in support of SB 211 before the Senate Finance committee on February 14. In the Senate - Favorable with Amendments Report by Finance
SB 234- Interstate Medical Licensure Compact	Entering into the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact to strengthen access to health care by developing a comprehensive process to complement existing licensing and regulatory authority and provide a streamlined method to allow physicians to become licensed in multiple states; requiring a physician to meet certain eligibility requirements to receive certain licensure; requiring physicians to designate a certain state as the state of principal license for purposes of registration for certain expedited licensure; etc.	SB 234 HB 596 MHA's Position Paper on SB 234	MHA testified in support of SB 234 before the Senate Education, Health and Environmental Affairs committee on January 31. MHA testified in support of HB 596 before the House Health and Government Operations committee on February 15.
SB 284- Maryland Medical Assistance Program - Dental Coverage for Adults	Requiring the Maryland Medical Assistance Program, under certain circumstances, to provide limited dental coverage for certain adults beginning on January 1, 2020, and subject to certain limitations; requiring the Maryland Department of Health, in consultation with certain stakeholders, to study and recommend ways to structure adult dental coverage so as to balance fiscal constraints with the dental needs of enrollees; and requiring the Department to report	SB 284 MHA's Position Paper on SB 284	MHA submitted written testimony in support of SB 284 to the Senate Finance committee on February 7.

This dashboard updated February 16

	to the Governor and the General Assembly on or before January 1, 2019.		
SB 309- Health - Reporting of Overdose Information	Authorizing emergency medical services providers and law enforcement officers to report certain overdoses using a certain information technology platform with secure access; requiring that the report include certain information; requiring the emergency medical services provider or law enforcement officer making a report to make certain effort to make the report within 24 hours after responding to the incident; etc.	SB 309 HB 359 MHA's Position Paper on SB 309	<p>In the Senate - Favorable with Amendments Report by Finance</p> <p>MHA submitted written testimony in support of HB 359 to the House Health & Government Operations committee on February 13.</p>
SB 574- Public Health - Sepsis Public Awareness Campaign Workgroup	Requiring the Secretary of Health to establish a Sepsis Public Awareness Campaign Workgroup; providing for the membership of the Workgroup; requiring the Workgroup to develop a certain public awareness campaign, identify, review, and evaluate certain resources, and identify cost-effective methods for dissemination of certain information; and requiring the Workgroup to report to certain committees of the General Assembly on or before December 1, 2018.	SB 574 HB 1467 MHA's Position Paper on SB 574	<p>MHA testified in support of SB 574 before the Senate Finance committee on February 15.</p> <p>House hearing- February 20</p>
SB 862- 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 certain premiums and insurance surcharges to be used to finance and administer the Fund; applying the Act prospectively; etc.	SB 862 HB 909 MHA's Position Paper on SB 862	<p>Senate hearing- February 21</p> <p>House hearing- TBD</p>
HB 86- Health Insurance - Coverage for Elevated or Impaired Blood	Authorizing certain insurers, nonprofit health service plans, and health maintenance organizations to provide reimbursement for certain services for the treatment of prediabetes; requiring certain insurers, nonprofit health	HB 86 MHA's Position Paper on HB 86	<p>MHA submitted written testimony in support of HB 86 to the House Health & Government Operations Committee on January 31.</p>

Glucose Levels and Prediabetes Treatment	service plans, and health maintenance organizations to provide coverage for certain equipment, supplies, training, and services for the treatment of elevated or impaired blood glucose levels induced by pregnancy or prediabetes; etc.		
HB 243- Task Force on Rural Internet, Broadband, Wireless, and Cellular Service - Study and Extension	Requiring the Task Force on Rural, Internet, Broadband, Wireless, and Cellular Service, in conducting a certain study, to solicit input from local governments and Internet service providers on identifying unserved and underserved areas in Western Maryland counties, Southern Maryland counties, Eastern Shore counties, and Frederick, Carroll, and Harford counties; extending the date by which the Task Force must report its findings and recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly to November 30, 2018; etc.	HB 243 MHA's Position Paper on HB 243	MHA submitted written testimony in support of HB 243 to the House Economic Matters Committee on February 1.

Support with Amendments			
Legislation/Issues	Synopsis	Resources	New This Week/Upcoming Dates
SB 17- Health Information Exchange- Definition and Regulations	Altering a requirement that the Maryland Health Care Commission adopt certain regulations for the privacy and security of protected health information obtained or released through a health information exchange; repealing a certain provision of law prohibiting certain regulations from applying to protected health information exchanged between or among certain persons; etc.	SB 17 MHA's Position Paper on SB 17	In the Senate - Second Reading Passed with Amendments
SB 163- Public Health – Community Health Workers – Advisory Committee and Certification	Establishing the State Community Health Worker Advisory Committee; requiring the Advisory Committee to advise the Maryland Department of Health on certain matters relating to the certification and training of community health workers; requiring the Department to adopt certain regulations for accrediting community health worker training programs; requiring the Department to adopt regulations relating to the certification of community	SB 163 HB 490 MHA's Position Paper on SB 163	<p>MHA testified in support of SB 163 before the Senate Finance committee on February 1.</p> <p>MHA testified in support of HB 490 before the Health & Government Operations committee on February 14.</p>

	health workers; etc.		
SB 530- Hospitals - Patient's Bill of Rights	Requiring each administrator of a hospital to provide patients with a certain patient's bill of rights; requiring each administrator of a hospital to provide certain patients with a translator, an interpreter, or another accommodation to provide certain assistance to patients; requiring each administrator of a hospital to conspicuously post copies of the patient's bill of rights on the hospital's website and in areas of the hospital accessible to patients;	SB 530 HB 562 MHA's Position Paper on SB 530	MHA testified in support of SB 530 before the Senate Finance committee on February 15. House hearing- February 20
HB 247- Criminal Procedure - Victim Services Unit - Victims' Compensation	Establishing a Victim Services Unit in the Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention; transferring the Criminal Injuries Compensation Board from the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services to the Unit; transferring the program for sexual assault forensic examinations from the Maryland Department of Health to the Unit; requiring the Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention to report on matters related to crime victims by December 31, 2020; etc.	HB 247 SB 963 MHA's Position Paper on HB 247	MHA testified in support of HB 247 before the House Judiciary committee on January 30. Senate hearing- February 28

Oppose			
Legislation/Issues	Synopsis	Resources	New This Week/Upcoming Dates
SB 5- 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 all other issues presented in the action; requiring a trier of fact to determine the amount of punitive damages to be awarded based on certain factors under certain circumstances; applying the Act prospectively; etc.	SB 5 MHA's Position Paper on SB 5	MHA testified in opposition of SB 5 before the Senate Judicial Proceedings committee on January 16.

SB 30- 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 30 MHA's Position Paper on SB 30	MHA testified in opposition of SB 30 before the Senate Judicial Proceedings committee on January 16.
SB 36- Civil Actions - Noneconomic Damages	Increasing the maximum amount of noneconomic damages that may be recovered in certain wrongful death actions or survival actions arising on or after October 1, 2018; and providing that a jury may be informed of certain limitations on noneconomic damages in certain civil actions.	SB 36 HB 289 MHA's Position Paper on SB 36	<p>MHA testified in opposition to SB 36 before the Senate Judicial Proceedings committee on January 16.</p> <p>MHA testified in opposition to HB 289 before the House Judiciary committee on January 31.</p>
SB 390- Hospitals - Changes in Status - Hospital Employee Retraining and Placement	Requiring a hospital that downsizes to pay a fee directly to the Department of Labor, Licensing, and Regulation if workers are displaced; requiring the Health Services Cost Review Commission to prorate the total amount of certain fees among all hospitals in a certain manner to derive the individual fee for each hospital; requiring the Department to establish a program for retraining and placement of certain hospital employees; etc.	SB 390 HB 614 MHA's Position Paper on SB 390	<p>MHA testified in opposition to SB 390 before the Senate Finance committee on February 8.</p> <p>House hearing- February 20</p>
SB 465- Civil Actions - Motor Vehicle Accidents Involving Pedestrians or Non-motorized Vehicles - Comparative Negligence	Prohibiting recovery by a certain plaintiff from being barred in a certain civil action due to the plaintiff's negligence, except under certain circumstances; requiring any damages awarded under the Act to be diminished in proportion to the amount of negligence attributed to the plaintiff; providing for the prospective application of the Act; etc.	SB 465 MHA's Position Paper on SB 465	<p>MHA testified in opposition to SB 465 before the Judicial Proceedings committee on February 6.</p> <p>In the Senate - Unfavorable Report by Judicial Proceedings</p>
SB 522- Health Care Providers - Opioid Prescriptions - Discussion of	Requiring certain health care providers to discuss certain information and risks associated with the prescription of opioids that are controlled dangerous substances with the patient or, if the patient is a minor, the parent or guardian of the minor before issuing an initial prescription and before	SB 522	MHA submitted written testimony in opposition to SB 522 before the Senate Education, Health and Environmental Affairs committee on February 15.

Information and Risks	issuing a third prescription in the same course of treatment; requiring certain health care providers to obtain a certain written acknowledgment and include the acknowledgment in the patient's medical record; etc.	HB 653 MHA's Position Paper on SB 522	House hearing- February 21
HB 41- Hospitals - Community Benefit Report - Disclosure of Tax Exemptions	Requiring a nonprofit hospital to include an itemization of all tax exemptions received by the hospital in the hospital's annual community benefit report.	HB 41	Sponsor withdrew bill.

Letter of Information			
Legislation/Issues	Synopsis	Resources	New This Week/Upcoming Dates
SB 552- State Board of Professional Counselors and Therapists - Sunset Extension and Program Evaluation	Continuing the State Board of Professional Counselors and Therapists in accordance with the provisions of the Maryland Program Evaluation Act (Sunset Law) by extending to July 1, 2021, the termination provisions relating to statutory and regulatory authority of the Board; altering the composition of the Board; repealing certain provisions of law establishing and governing the Behavior Analyst Advisory Committee; establishing the Alcohol and Drug Counselor Subcommittee; etc.	SB 552 HB 742 MHA's Position Paper on SB 552	MHA submitted a letter of information on SB 552 to the Senate Education, Health & Environmental Affairs committee on February 15. MHA submitted a letter of information on HB 742 to the House Health & Government Operations committee on February 15.
HB 88- Public Health - Prescription Drug Monitoring Program - Revisions	Requiring, instead of authorizing, the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program to review prescription monitoring data for indications of a possible misuse or abuse of a monitored prescription drug; requiring, instead of authorizing, the Program to report the possible misuse or abuse to the prescriber or dispenser of the monitored prescription drug under certain circumstances; requiring the Program to provide education to the prescriber or dispenser of the monitored prescription drug under certain circumstances; etc	HB 88 MHA's Position Paper on HB 88	MHA submitted a letter of information on HB 88 to the House Health & Government Operations Committee on January 31.