



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	In the House - First Reading Health and Government Operations
SB 234/HB 596- 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	<p>MHA testified in support of SB 234 before the Senate Education, Health and Environmental Affairs committee on January 31.</p> <p>MHA testified in support of HB 596 before the House Health and Government Operations committee on February 15.</p>
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	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 23

	coverage so as to balance fiscal constraints with the dental needs of enrollees; and requiring the Department to report to the Governor and the General Assembly on or before January 1, 2019.		
SB 309/HB 359- 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	In the House - First Reading Health and Government Operations MHA submitted written testimony in support of HB 359 to the House Health & Government Operations committee on February 13.
SB 574/HB 1467- 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	In the Senate - Third Reading Passed (46-0) MHA submitted written testimony in support of HB 1467 before the House Health & Government Operations committee on February 20.
SB 862/HB 909- 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	MHA testified in support of SB 862 before the Senate Judicial Proceedings hearing on February 21. House hearing- March 9
SB 656/HB 86- Health Insurance - Coverage	Authorizing certain insurers, nonprofit health service plans, and health maintenance organizations to provide	HB 86	MHA submitted written testimony in support of HB 86 to the House Health &

for Elevated or Impaired Blood Glucose Levels and Prediabetes Treatment	reimbursement for certain services for the treatment of prediabetes; requiring certain insurers, nonprofit health 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.	SB 656 MHA's Position Paper on HB 86	Government Operations committee on January 31. Senate hearing- March 7
SB 704/HB 1652- Maryland Medical Assistance Program - Telemedicine - Assertive Community Treatment and Mobile Treatment Services	Requiring the Maryland Department of Health, under certain circumstances, to include psychiatrists who are providing Assertive Community Treatment or mobile treatment services to certain Maryland Medical Assistance Program recipients in the types of providers eligible to receive reimbursement for health care services that are delivered through telemedicine and provided to Program recipients; etc.	SB 704 HB 1652 MHA's Position Paper on SB 704	MHA submitted written testimony in support of SB 704 to the Senate Finance committee on February 21. House hearing- February 27
SB 968/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 SB 968 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. MHA submitted written testimony in support of SB 968 to the Finance committee on February 22.

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 House - First Reading Health and Government Operations
SB 163/HB 490- 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 health workers; etc.	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>
SB 530/HB 562- 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	<p>MHA testified in support of SB 530 before the Senate Finance committee on February 15.</p> <p>MHA testified in support of HB 562 before the House Health & Government Operations committee on February 20.</p>
SB 731/HB 639- Health - Alleged Rape, Sexual Offense, or Child Sexual Abuse - HIV Post-Exposure	Requiring the Maryland Department of Health to compensate a physician or hospital that provides certain post-exposure prophylaxis treatment under certain circumstances for the prevention of HIV to a victim of alleged rape or sexual offense or a victim of alleged child	SB 731 HB 639	<p>MHA testified in support of SB 731 before the Senate Judicial Proceedings committee on February 21.</p> <p>House hearing- February 27</p>

Prophylaxis	sexual abuse without charge to the victim; etc.	MHA's Position Paper on SB 731	
SB 963/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.	SB 963 HB 247 MHA's Position Paper on HB 247	Senate hearing- February 28 MHA testified in support of HB 247 before the House Judiciary committee on January 30.

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/HB 289- 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/HB 614- 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	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>MHA testified in opposition to HB 614 before the House Government</p>

	establish a program for retraining and placement of certain hospital employees; etc.		Operations committee on February 20.
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	In the Senate - Unfavorable Report by Judicial Proceedings
SB 522/HB 653- Health Care Providers - Opioid Prescriptions - Discussion of Information and Risks	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 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.	SB 522 HB 653 MHA's Position Paper on SB 522	MHA submitted written testimony in opposition to SB 522 before the Senate Education, Health and Environmental Affairs committee on February 15. MHA submitted written testimony in opposition to HB 653 before the House committee on House Health & Government Operations committee on February 21.
SB 722/HB 1205- Motor Vehicles – Alcohol– or Drug–Related Driving Offenses – Testing Requirement	Requiring a police officer who has reasonable grounds to believe that an individual has been driving or attempting to drive while under the influence or while impaired by alcohol, drugs, or controlled dangerous substances in violation of certain laws to provide certain medical personnel with a certain signed statement; and requiring medical personnel, on receipt of a signed statement from a police officer, to perform a certain test regardless of whether the person to be tested consents to the test.	SB 722 HB 1205 MHA's Position Paper on SB 722	Senate hearing- February 27 House hearing- March 2
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.

Letters of Information

Legislation/Issues	Synopsis	Resources	New This Week/Upcoming Dates
SB 387- Health Insurance - Health Care Access Program - Establishment (Maryland Health Care Access Act of 2018)	Requiring a carrier to pay a certain assessment on certain premiums under certain circumstances beginning January 1, 2019; establishing as a purpose of the Maryland Health Benefit Exchange to seek approval of and carry out a certain waiver; requiring the Exchange to establish and oversee the implementation of a Health Care Access Program; requiring, beginning on a certain date, an individual to maintain certain coverage for certain individuals; requiring that an individual pay a certain penalty under certain circumstances; etc.	<p>SB 387</p> <p>MHA's Position Paper on SB 387</p>	MHA submitted a letter of information on SB 387 to the Senate Finance committee on February 21.
SB 552/HB 742- 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.	<p>SB 552</p> <p>HB 742</p> <p>MHA's Position Paper on SB 552</p>	<p>MHA submitted a letter of information on SB 552 to the Senate Education, Health & Environmental Affairs committee on February 15.</p> <p>MHA submitted a letter of information on HB 742 to the House Health & Government Operations committee on February 15.</p>
SB 690/HB 726- Maryland Department of Health - Basic Health Program – Implementation	Requiring the Maryland Department of Health to provide certain Basic Health Program coverage in the State; requiring the Maryland Department of Health to report to the Department of Legislative Services and the General Assembly on or before June 1, 2019, on whether the State can implement, beginning January 1, 2020, a Basic Health Program that accomplishes certain objectives and take other certain action related to the implementation of the Program; etc.	<p>SB 690</p> <p>HB 726</p> <p>MHA's Position Paper on SB 690</p>	<p>MHA submitted a letter of information on SB 690 to the Senate Finance committee on February 21.</p> <p>MHA submitted a letter of information on HB 726 to the House Health & Government Operations committee on February 22.</p>

SB 878/HB 1312- Health Insurance - Medicaid Buy-In Task Force	Establishing the Medicaid Buy-In Task Force; providing for the purpose, composition, chair, and staffing of the Task Force; prohibiting a member of the Task Force from receiving certain compensation, but authorizing the reimbursement of certain expenses; authorizing the Secretary of Health to seek and obtain certain grant funding; requiring the Task Force to study and make recommendations on certain matters; terminating the Act after December 31, 2019; etc.	SB 878 HB 1312 MHA's Position Paper on SB 878	<p>MHA submitted a letter of information on SB 878 to the Senate Finance committee on February 21.</p> <p>MHA submitted a letter of information on HB 1312 to the House Health & Government Operations committee on February 22.</p>
SB 1011/HB 1167- Protect Maryland Health Care Act of 2018	Establishing the Maryland Insurance Stabilization Fund and the Health Insurance Down Payment Escrow Fund; specifying the purposes of the funds; requiring, beginning on a certain date, an individual to maintain certain coverage for certain individuals; requiring that an individual pay a certain payment under certain circumstances; requiring the Exchange to take certain steps to facilitate the enrollment of certain individuals into certain coverage under certain circumstances; etc.	SB 1011 HB 1167 MHA's Position Paper on SB 1011	<p>MHA submitted a letter of information on SB 1011 to Senate Finance committee on February 21.</p> <p>MHA submitted a letter of information on HB 1167 to the House Health & Government Operations committee on February 22.</p>
SB 1083/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 SB 1083 MHA's Position Paper on HB 88	<p>MHA submitted a letter of information on HB 88 to the House Health & Government Operations Committee on January 31.</p> <p>Senate hearing- March 22</p>
HB 34- Public Health - Disease Control and Prevention - HPV Screening Tests	Requiring a health care practitioner who offers a screening test to a man for a sexually transmitted infection to offer a screening test for HPV to the same man at the same time; requiring health care practitioners who offer the HPV screening test to inform the individual about the risks	HB 34 MHA's Position Paper on HB 34	<p>MHA submitted a letter of information on HB 34 to the House Health & Government Operations committee on February 20.</p>

associated with HPV; etc.

HB 1504- Task Force to Study Reinsurance to Reduce Health Insurance Premiums

Establishing the Task Force to Study Reinsurance to Reduce Health Insurance Premiums; providing for the composition, co-chairs, and staffing of the Task Force; prohibiting a member of the Task Force from receiving certain compensation, but authorizing the reimbursement of certain expenses; requiring the Task Force to study and make recommendations regarding certain matters; requiring the Task Force to report its findings and recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly on or before December 1, 2018; etc.

[HB 1504](#)

[MHA's Position Paper on HB 1504](#)

MHA submitted a letter of information on HB 1504 to the House Health & Government Operations committee on February 22.