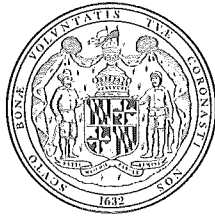


SHANE PENDERGRASS
CHAIR



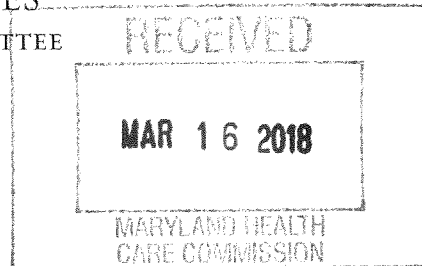
*Unfavorable
Report
Withdrawn*

ERIC M. BROMWELL
VICE CHAIR

THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES
HEALTH AND GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

March 13, 2018

Ben Steffen, Executive Director
Maryland Health Care Commission
4160 Patterson Avenue
Baltimore, MD 21215



Dear Executive Director Steffen,

Feb 2nd → The House Health and Government Operations Committee heard House Bill 857 on February 28, 2018. As amended by the sponsor, this bill would prohibit carriers and hospitals from requiring that physicians participate in a maintenance of certification program or an osteopathic continuous certification program as a prerequisite to or continuation of certain privileges.

Opposition testimony on this bill noted that there are problems with the existing maintenance of certification requirements for physicians but did not feel this bill was the best approach to addressing those issues. Advocates on both sides have agreed to study this topic over the interim with the goal of recommending legislation for consideration during the 2019 session.

I respectfully ask that the Maryland Health Care Commission lead this study effort with the following stakeholders: MedChi, the Maryland Hospital Association, Johns Hopkins University and Medicine, and CareFirst. I would appreciate if you would also invite Delegate Morhaim, one of the bill's sponsors, and Dr. Jeff Fernley to participate in the study as well as they are both very interested in the issue and the outcome of these efforts.

Thank you for your assistance on this important matter. If you have any questions, please contact Lindsay Rowe, counsel for the Committee, at 410-946-5350.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Shane Pendergrass".

Shane E. Pendergrass, Chairman
House Health and Government
Operations Committee

Cc: Delegate Chris West
Delegate Dan K. Morhaim