



ADVOCACY DASHBOARD

2019 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Support

Legislation/Issues	Synopsis	Resources	New This Week/Upcoming Dates
SB 36 (HB 127)- Health Insurance- Health Benefit Plans- Special Enrollment Period for Pregnancy	Requiring certain health benefit plans and certain carriers to provide a special enrollment period during which certain individuals who become pregnant may enroll in a health benefit plan; establishing the duration of the special enrollment period; establishing certain effective dates of coverage for certain individuals enrolled in certain health benefit plans during the special enrollment period; applying the Act to all health benefit plans issued, delivered, or renewed in the State on or after January 1, 2020; etc.	SB 36 HB 127 HB 127 Position Paper	In the House - First Reading House Rules and Executive Nominations In the Senate - First Reading Finance
SB 116 (HB 82)- Transportation- Complete Streets - Access to Healthy Food	Requiring a complete streets policy adopted by certain modal administrations of the Department of Transportation to create access to healthy food for certain individuals living in food deserts; authorizing grants under the Complete Streets Program to be used to encourage certain jurisdictions to develop ranking systems for projects that prioritize designs that create access to healthy food in food deserts; requiring the Governor, each year, to appropriate \$1,000,000 from the Transportation Trust Fund for the Program;	SB 116 HB 82 HB 82 Position Paper	In the House - First Reading Environment and Transportation In the Senate - First Reading Finance and Budget and Taxation
SB 125 (HB 100)- Budget Bill (Fiscal Year 2020)	Making the proposed appropriations contained in the State Budget for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020, in accordance with Article III, Section 52 of the Maryland Constitution, etc.	SB 125 HB 100	In the Senate - First Reading Budget and Taxation In the Senate - Conference Committee Appointed
SB 151 (HB 211)- Criminal Law - Crimes Involving Computers - Ransomware	Prohibiting a person from committing a certain prohibited act with the intent to interrupt or impair the functioning of a health care facility; prohibiting a person from knowingly possessing certain ransomware with the intent to use that ransomware for a certain purpose; altering and establishing certain penalties; authorizing a victim of a certain offense to bring a civil action for damages against a certain person, etc.	SB 151 HB 211 SB 151 Position Paper	MHA submitted written testimony in support of SB 151 on Jan. 31 before the Judicial Proceedings Committee MHA submitted written testimony in support of HB 211 on Feb. 12 before the Judiciary Committee.

This dashboard updated March 22

SB 178 (HB 570)-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 on-site	SB 178 HB 570 SB 178 Position Paper	MHA submitted written testimony in support of SB 178 before the Health & Government Operations Committee on March 20. In the Senate- First Reading in Finance
SB 220- Maryland Medical Assistance Program- Coverage of Dental Services- Repeal of Contingency	Repealing the provision of law that made the effectiveness of a certain provision of law authorizing the Maryland Medical Assistance Program to provide dental services to certain adults contingent on the Maryland Dental Action Coalition making a certain determination; etc.	SB 220 SB 220 Position Paper	In the House - Hearing 3/20 at 1:00 p.m.
SB 321- Civil Actions - Offers of Judgment	Making provisions of law relating to an offer of judgment in an action for a medical injury applicable to all civil actions; and applying the Act prospectively	SB 321 SB 321 Position Paper	MHA submitted written testimony in support of SB 321 to the Judicial Proceedings Committee on Feb. 14.
SB 322- Medical Malpractice - Notice of Intent to File Claim	Prohibiting a claim against a health care provider for damage due to a medical injury from being filed with the Director of the Health Care Alternative Dispute Resolution Office unless, at least 90 days before filing the claim, the claimant has given a notice to the health care provider of intent to file a claim; requiring the notice to include certain information and to be served on the health care provider at a certain address;	SB 322 SB 322 Position Paper	MHA testified in support of SB 322 on Feb. 14 before the Judicial Proceedings Committee.
SB 323- Medical Malpractice - Discovery	Establishing that a defendant in a claim filed with the Health Care Alternative Dispute Resolution Office may seek discovery as to the basis of a certificate of a qualified expert filed by the claimant or plaintiff without prejudice to later discovery if the attesting expert is designated as a trial expert; prohibiting a deposition of a defendant health care provider from being required until the claimant has filed and served a certain certificate of a qualified expert; applying the Act prospectively;	SB 323 SB 323 Position Paper	MHA testified in support of SB 323 on Feb. 14 before the Judicial Proceedings Committee.

SB 356 (HB 583)- Health - Maternal Mortality Review Program - Reporting Requirement	Requiring the Secretary of Health to include in a certain annual report regarding the Maternal Mortality Review Program a section on racial disparities that includes a comparison of the maternal mortality rates of non-Hispanic black and non-Hispanic white women and data on changes in the maternal mortality rate by race and ethnicity.	SB 356 HB 583 SB 356 Position Paper	MHA submitted a letter of support for SB 356 to the Health & Government Operations Committee on SB 356. In the Senate - First Reading Finance
SB 369 (HB 372)- Evidence – Chain of Custody of DNA	Establishing that a certain report signed by the DNA analyst is prima facie evidence of certain matters for a certain purpose under certain circumstances; providing that a certain DNA profile may be established without the necessity for the DNA analyst to personally appear in court under certain circumstances; providing that certain provisions of law do not preclude the right of any party to introduce any evidence supporting or contradicting certain evidence or presumptions; etc.	SB 369 HB 372 SB 369 Position Paper	In the Senate - Unfavorable Report by Judicial Proceedings In the House - Unfavorable Report by Judiciary; Withdrawn
SB 403 (HB 427)- Behavioral Health Administration – Outpatient Civil Commitment – Statewide Expansion	Requiring the Behavioral Health Administration to establish a statewide outpatient civil commitment program; requiring a local behavioral health authority that chooses to participate in the program to coordinate community-based treatment for individuals admitted to the program; establishing an Outpatient Civil Commitment Advisory Committee; requiring the Administration to submit a certain report to certain committees of the General Assembly on or before December 1 each year;	SB 403 HB 427 HB 427 Position Paper	In the House - First Reading Health and Government Operations In the Senate - First Reading Finance
SB 405 (HB 435)- Health Insurance – Prescription Drugs – Formulary Charges	Prohibiting certain insurers, nonprofit health service plans, and health maintenance organizations from making certain formulary changes during a plan year and the open enrollment period that precedes the plan year, except under certain circumstances; defining "utilization management restriction"; and applying the Act to all policies, contracts, and health benefit plans issued, delivered, or renewed in the State on or after January 1, 2020.	SB 405 HB 435 SB 405 Position Paper	House Hearing- Hearing 3/28 at 1 pm In the Senate - First Reading Finance
SB 410- Health Insurance - Coverage for Insulin - Prohibition on Deductible, Copayment, Coinsurance	Prohibiting, except under certain circumstances, certain insurers, nonprofit health service plans, and health maintenance organizations from imposing a deductible, copayment, or coinsurance requirement on insulin; and applying the Act to all policies, contracts, and health benefit plans issued, delivered, or renewed in the State on or after January 1, 2020.	SB 410 SB 410 Position Paper	MHA submitted written testimony in support of SB 410 to the Finance Committee on March 6.

SB 521- Veteran Suicide Prevention - Comprehensive Action Plan	Requiring the Maryland Department of Health to develop a certain action plan to increase access to and the availability of professional veteran health services to prevent veteran suicides; requiring the plan to address certain matters; requiring the Department to collaborate with interested parties in developing the plan; requiring the Department to implement certain initiatives and reforms by June 30, 2023, and June 30, 2029; etc.	SB 521 SB 521 Position Paper	MHA submitted a letter of support on SB 521 to the Health & Government Operations Committee on March 20.
SB 524 (HB 605)- Maryland Medical Assistance Program - Telemedicine - Psychiatric Nurse Practitioners	Requiring the Maryland Department of Health, under certain circumstances, to include psychiatric nurse practitioners 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;	SB 524 HB 605 HB 605 Position Paper	MHA submitted written testimony in support of SB 524 to the Finance Committee on March 6. In the Senate - First Reading Finance
SB 555 (HB 640)- Peace Orders - Workplace Violence	Making certain provisions of law relating to the filing, issuance, and modification of certain peace orders and to the shielding of certain court records of certain peace order proceedings apply to certain peace orders filed by certain employers on the basis of certain acts committed against certain employees under certain circumstances; providing certain immunity from certain liability to a certain employer under certain circumstances; etc.	SB 555 HB 640 SB 555 Position Paper	MHA testified in support of SB 555 on Feb. 28 before the Judicial Proceedings Committee. In the Senate - First Reading Judicial Proceedings
SB 569 (HB 1268)- (Public Safety- Rape Kit Testing Grant Fund – Established	Establishing the Rape Kit Testing Grant Fund as a special, nonlapsing fund; specifying the purpose of the Fund; requiring the Department of State Police to administer the Fund; requiring the Department to establish and publish procedures for the distribution of funding to law enforcement agencies; requiring the State Treasurer to hold the Fund, and the Comptroller to account for the Fund;	SB 569 HB 1268 HB 1268 Position Paper	In the Senate - Favorable with Amendments Report by Judicial Proceedings In the Senate - First Reading Judicial Proceedings and Budget and Taxation
SB 597 (HB 646)- Maryland Health Care Commission - State Health Plan and Certificate of Need for Hospital Capital Expenditures	Altering the frequency, from at least once every 5 years to every year, at which the Maryland Health Care Commission is required to adopt a State health plan; requiring the State health plan to be consistent with a certain contract; requiring, annually or on petition by any person, the Commission to assess each State health plan chapter, make a certain determination, and establish a certain priority order and timeline in a certain manner;	SB 597 HB 646 HB 646 Position Paper	In the House - First Reading Health and Government Operations In the Senate - First Reading Finance

SB 631 (HB 599)- Health Insurance - Coverage for Mental Health Benefits and Substance Use Disorder Benefits - Requirements and Reports	Requiring certain carriers on or before July 1 each year to submit a report to the Maryland Insurance Commissioner to demonstrate the carrier's compliance with the federal Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act; requiring a carrier on or before July 1 each year to submit a report to the Commissioner on data for certain benefits by certain classification; requiring the reports to include certain information and be submitted in a certain manner; etc.	SB 631 HB 599 HB 599 Position Paper	In the Senate - Second Reading Passed with Amendments In the Senate - First Reading Finance
SB 657 (HB 1249)- Pilot Program – Alleged Rape, Sexual Offense, or Child Sexual Abuse – HIV Postexposure Prophylaxis	Establishing the Pilot Program for Preventing HIV Infection for Rape Victims to prevent HIV infection for victims of an alleged rape or sexual offense or victims of alleged child sexual abuse; requiring the Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention to administer the program; requiring that a victim of an alleged rape or sexual offense or a victim of alleged child sexual abuse be provided with a full course of treatment and follow-up care for post exposure prophylaxis for the prevention of HIV infection; etc.	SB 657 HB 1249 SB 657 Position Paper	MHA submitted a letter of support for SB 657 to the Health & Government Operations Committee on March 20. MHA testified in support of HB 1249 before the House Health & Government Operations Committee on March 11.
SB 733 (HB 924)- State Board of Physicians - Registered Cardiovascular Invasive Specialists	Authorizing a licensed physician, under certain circumstances and in accordance with certain regulations, to delegate certain duties to a registered cardiovascular invasive specialist assisting in the physician's performance of a fluoroscopy; establishing that the hospital in which a certain laboratory is located and the physician delegating the acts are responsible for ensuring that certain requirements are met; authorizing the State Board of Physicians to impose a certain civil penalty; etc.	SB 733 HB 924 SB 733 Position Paper	In the House - Hearing 3/26 at 1:00 p.m. In the Senate - First Reading Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs
SB 761 (HB 837)- Health Insurance - Payments to Noncontracting Specialists and Noncontracting Nonphysician Specialists	Requiring a carrier to inform members and beneficiaries of the procedure to request a certain referral to certain noncontracting health care providers; requiring, under certain circumstances, certain insurers, nonprofit health service plans, and health maintenance organizations to pay a certain amount for certain services provided to a member by certain noncontracting healthcare providers when a referral is granted to the member; etc.	SB 761 HB 837 SB 761 Position Paper	MHA submitted a letter of support for SB 761 to the Senate Finance Committee on March 13. MHA submitted a letter of support for HB 837 to the House Health & Government Operations Committee on February 28.
SB 784 (HB 1323)- Civil Actions - Health Care Malpractice Claims (Life Care Act 2019)	Requiring a certain award or verdict for future medical expenses to be based solely on average Medicare reimbursement rates in effect on the date of the award or verdict for the locality in which the care is to be provided; requiring a certain award or verdict for future	SB 784 HB 1323	MHA testified in support of SB 784 before the Judicial Proceedings Committee on March 6.

	medical expenses for hospital facility services to be based on certain rates; requiring a certain award or verdict for future medical expenses for nursing facility services to be based on a certain rate;	SB 784 Position Paper	MHA testified in support of HB 1323 before the House Judiciary Committee on March 14.
SB 802 (HB 814)- Maryland Health Insurance Option (Protect Maryland Health Care Act of 2019)	Establishing the Maryland Health Insurance Option and the purpose of the Option; requiring certain individuals who are under a certain age to maintain certain minimum essential coverage for the individual and certain household members; requiring a certain individual to pay a certain amount if certain coverage is not maintained for a certain period of time of a certain taxable year; etc.	SB 802 HB 814 HB 814 Position Paper	In the House - First Reading House Rules and Executive Nominations In the Senate - First Reading Finance and Budget and Taxation
SB 820 (HB 1392)- Public Health – Co-Prescribing, Prescribing and Dispensing Opioid Overdose Reversal Drugs	Authorizing a prescribing licensed health care provider to co-prescribe or prescribe or a pharmacist to dispense an opioid overdose reversal drug under certain circumstances; prohibiting a prescribing licensed health care provider and pharmacist from taking certain actions until the prescribing licensed health care provider or pharmacist completes certain training; authorizing the Secretary of Health to post certain guidelines for the prescribing of opioid overdose reversal drugs on the Department's website; etc.	SB 820 HB 1392 SB 820 Position Paper	MHA submitted written testimony in support of SB 820 to the Finance Committee on March 13. In the House - First Reading House Rules and Executive Nominations
SB 846 (HB 116)- Public Health - Correctional Services - Opioid Use Disorder Examinations and Treatment	Repealing the requirement for a certain inmate to be placed on a program of methadone detoxification under certain circumstances; requiring State and local correctional facilities to conduct a certain assessment of each inmate within 24 hours of incarceration to determine whether opioid treatment or medication-assisted treatment for opioid addiction is appropriate; requiring State and local correctional facilities to provide certain treatments to inmates suffering from opioid use disorder under certain circumstances;	SB 846 HB 116 HB 116 Position Paper	In the Senate - Third Reading Passed (46-0) In the Senate - First Reading Finance
SB 868 (HB 697) - Health Insurance – Consumer Protections	Repealing a certain provision of law applying certain provisions of the federal Affordable Care Act to certain health insurance coverage issued or delivered in the State by certain insurers, nonprofit health service plans, or health maintenance organizations; prohibiting certain carriers from excluding or limiting certain benefits or denying coverage under certain circumstances; prohibiting certain carriers from establishing certain rules for eligibility based on health status factors; etc.	SB 868 HB 697 HB 697 Position Paper	In the House - Hearing 3/28 at 1 pm In the Senate - First Reading Finance

SB 869 (HB 1320)- Maryland No-Fault Birth Injury Fund	Establishing a system for adjudication of a claim involving a birth-related neurological injury; providing for certain benefits and compensation of a claimant under the Act; 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; requiring the Maryland Patient Safety Center to convene a certain Perinatal Clinical Advisory Committee; applying the Act prospectively; etc.	SB 869 HB 1329 SB 869 Position Paper	MHA submitted written testimony in support of SB 869 to the Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee on March 13. In the House - First Reading House Rules and Executive Nominations
SB 909 (HB 364)- Health Care Practitioners - Medical Examinations on Anesthetized or Unconscious Patients	Prohibiting health care practitioners and certain students and trainees from performing certain examinations on a patient who is under anesthesia or unconscious unless informed consent has been obtained from the patient for the examination, the examination is within the scope of care, or the patient is unconscious and the examination is required for diagnostic purposes; authorizing certain health occupations boards to take certain actions against certain health care practitioners under certain circumstances; etc.	SB 909 HB 364 HB 364 Position Paper	In the House - Hearing 3/26 at 1:00 p.m. In the Senate - First Reading Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs
SB 912 (HB 686)- Maryland Healthy Working Families Act - Adverse Actions - Absence Control Policy	Prohibiting a certain provision of the Maryland Healthy Working Families Act from being construed to prohibit an employer from applying a certain absence control policy if the employer provides at least 40 hours of paid leave a year, excluding earned sick and safe leave; and providing the absence control policy is uniformly applied, is provided to all employees uniformly, has a progressive accountability structure and provides for a warning before any possible action is taken against an employee.	SB 912 HB 686 SB 912 Position Paper	MHA testified in support of SB 912 before the Senate Finance Committee on March 19. MHA testified in support of HB 686 before the House Economic Matters Committee on February 19.
SB 933 (HB 1248)- Criminal Procedure - Sexual Assault Evidence Kits - Privacy and Reimbursement	Prohibiting a physician, qualified health care provider, and hospital from including a narrative describing the alleged offense or a photograph of the victim in a request to obtain payment for certain services related to forensic examinations for certain sexually related crimes under certain circumstances; altering the services for which the Criminal Injuries Compensation Board is required to pay certain claims and for which a physician and a qualified health care provider are immune from civil liability under certain circumstances	SB 933 HB 1248 HB 1248 Position Paper	MHA testified in support of SB 933 before the Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee on March 12. In the Senate - First Reading Judicial Proceedings

SB 970 (HB 506)- Maryland Department of Health – Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder Services – Needs Assessment	Requiring the Maryland Department of Health to conduct a certain study to determine the existing capacity and estimated unmet needs for mental health and substance use disorder services by region of the State; requiring that the study include a review of certain issues related to certain services; authorizing the Department to contract with an entity to conduct a certain study; requiring the Governor to include \$5,000,000 in the State budget in fiscal year 2021 for the study; etc.	SB 970 HB 506 SB 970 Position Paper	In the Senate - Third Reading Passed (46-0) In the Senate - Second Reading Passed
SB 993 (HB 783)- Task Force to Study Behavioral and Mental Health in Maryland	Establishing the Task Force to Study Behavioral and Mental Health in Maryland; providing for the 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; 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 certain committees of the General Assembly on or before December 1, 2020;	SB 993 HB 783 HB 783 Position Paper	MHA submitted written testimony in support of SB 993 to the Finance Committee on March 20. MHA testified in support of HB 783 before the Health Government & Operations Committee on March 6.
HB 308- Public Service Commission - Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity - Rapid Health Impact Assessment and Final Action	Requiring an applicant for a certificate of public convenience and necessity for certain construction to conduct a rapid health impact assessment (HIA) on the project and report on its findings; requiring a rapid HIA report to be completed not later than 45 days after the applicant submits its application to the Public Service Commission; requiring an applicant to complete the rapid HIA in a certain manner; requiring the rapid HIA report to be considered part of a certain application.	HB 308 HB 308 Position Paper	In the Senate - First Reading Senate Rules
HB 1274- Opioid Restitution Fund	Establishing the Opioid Restitution Fund as a special, nonlapsing fund; specifying the purpose of the Fund; requiring the State Treasurer to hold the Fund, and the Comptroller to account for the Fund; specifying the contents of the Fund; specifying the purpose for which the Fund may be used; providing for the investment of money in and expenditures from the Fund; requiring interest earnings of the Fund to be credited to the Fund; etc.	HB 1274 HB 1274 Position Paper	In the Senate - Hearing 3/27 at 1:00 p.m.

Support with Amendments

Legislation/Issues	Synopsis	Resources	New This Week/Upcoming Dates
SB 126 (HB 101)- Creation of a State Debt - Maryland Consolidated Capital Bond Loan of 2019	Authorizing the creation of a State Debt in the amount of One Billion, Eighty-Nine Million, One Hundred Ninety-Four Thousand Dollars (\$1,089,194,000), the proceeds to be used for certain necessary building, construction, demolition, planning, renovation, conversion, replacement, and capital equipment purchases of the State, for acquiring certain real estate in connection therewith, and for grants to certain subdivisions and other organizations for certain development and improvement purposes; etc.	SB 126 HB 101 SB 126 Position Paper	In the Senate - First Reading Budget and Taxation In the Senate - Laid Over (Senator Peters) Adopted
SB 195 (HB 25)- Public Health - Prescription Drug Monitoring Program - Revisions	Requiring the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program to review prescription monitoring data for indications of a possible misuse or abuse of a monitored prescription drug; requiring the Program to report the possible misuse or abuse to the prescriber or dispenser of the monitored prescription drug and to provide certain education to the prescriber or dispenser; authorizing the Program to provide prescription monitoring data to the Office of Controlled Substances Administration for further investigation;	SB 195 HB 25 SB 195 Position Paper	MHA submitted written testimony in support of SB 195 as amended. In the Senate - First Reading Finance
SB 251 (HB 1183)- Public Health- Treatment for the Prevention of HIV- Consent by Minors	Providing that a minor has the same capacity as an adult to consent to treatment for the prevention of human immunodeficiency virus (HIV); and prohibiting a licensed health care practitioner from giving certain information about treatment needed by a minor or provided to a minor to certain individuals under certain circumstances.	SB 251 HB 1183 SB 251 Position Paper	In the House - Second Reading Passed In the Senate - First Reading Finance
SB 280/HB 166- Labor and Employment - Payment of Wages - Minimum Wage and Enforcement (Fight for Fifteen)	Specifying the State minimum wage rate that is in effect for certain time periods; increasing, except under certain circumstances, the State minimum wage rate based on the annual growth in the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers for the Washington-Arlington-Alexandria, DC-VA-MD-WV metropolitan area; specifying the tip credit amount that is in effect for certain time periods; prohibiting an employer, beginning July 1, 2027, from including the tip credit amount as part of the wage of certain employees; etc.	SB 280 HB 166 HB 166 Position Paper	In the House - Passed Enrolled In the Senate - Passed Enrolled
SB 301/HB 145- 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	SB 301 HB 145	MHA testified in support of SB 301 with amendments on Feb. 28 before the Finance Committee.

	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;	HB 145 Position Paper	In the Senate - First Reading Finance
SB 342 (HB 466)- Prescription Drug Monitoring Program - Program Evaluation	Requiring the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program to provide prescription monitoring data to authorized users, rather than the authorized administrator, of another state's prescription drug monitoring program; repealing the termination date of the Program; repealing the requirement that the Department of Legislative Services conduct a certain evaluation of the Program under the Maryland Program Evaluation Act;	SB 342 HB 466 SB 342 Position Paper	MHA submitted written testimony in support of SB 342 with amendments to the Finance Committee on Feb. 14. In the Senate - First Reading Finance
SB 459 (HB 868)- Medical Records – Compulsory Process Requests – Advisory Protocol and Voluntary Training	Requiring, on or before September 30, 2020, the Office of the Attorney General to develop a certain advisory protocol and voluntary training program for health care providers regarding how to respond to compulsory process requests for medical records that includes information regarding certain requirements; and requiring the Office to consult certain entities in developing the advisory protocol and voluntary training program.	SB 459 HB 868 SB 459 Position Paper	MHA submitted written testimony in support of SB 459 with amendments to the Finance Committee on Feb. 20. MHA submitted written testimony in support of HB 868 with amendments to the Health & Government Operations Committee on Feb. 21.
SB 767 (HB 1096)- Criminal Procedure - Sexual Assault Evidence Collection Kits - Analysis	Requiring that a sexual assault evidence collection kit be submitted to a forensic laboratory for analysis unless a certain requirement is met; requiring that a certain victim be given the option to consent to submission of a certain sexual assault evidence collection kit for analysis without making a certain commitment; requiring a certain law enforcement agency that receives a sexual assault evidence collection kit to take certain actions under certain circumstances; etc.	SB 767 HB 1096 SB 767 Position Paper	In the House - Hearing 3/27 at 1:00 p.m. In the Senate - First Reading Judicial Proceedings
SB 803 (HB 849)- Health Facilities - Hospitals - Disclosure of Outpatient Facility Fees (Facility Fee Right-to-Know Act)	Requiring certain hospitals to provide each patient with written notice that includes certain information related to outpatient facility fees that are charged for services provided at the hospital; requiring that a certain notice be provided to certain patients in certain manners and at certain times; requiring that a certain notice be in plain language and in a certain form; prohibiting a hospital from charging, billing, or attempting to collect a certain fee unless the patient was given certain notice; etc.	SB 803 HB 849 SB 803 Position Paper	MHA testified in support of SB 803 with amendments on Feb. 28 before the Finance Committee. In the Senate - First Reading Finance

SB 940 (HB 931)- Health Care Facilities - Certificate of Need - Modifications	<p>Altering a provision of law exempting certain offices from certificate of need requirements under certain circumstances; providing that a certificate of need is required before the type or scope of any health care service is changed if the health care service results in a change in operating room capacity in a general hospital; altering the circumstances under which a certificate of need is required before certain capital expenses are made by or on behalf of a certain health care facility</p>	<p>SB 940 HB 931 HB 931 Position Paper</p>	<p>In the House - First Reading Health and Government Operations In the Senate - First Reading Finance</p>
SB 944- Behavioral Health Programs - Medical Directors - Psychiatric Nurse Practitioners	<p>Requiring that regulations adopted under certain provisions of law regulating behavioral health programs include provisions authorizing a psychiatric nurse practitioner to serve as a medical director of a behavioral health program, including through telehealth, if the program is located in a federally designated health professional shortage area or the medical director abandoned the program and the program has no psychiatrist to serve as medical director.</p>	<p>SB 944 SB 944 Position Paper</p>	<p>MHA submitted a letter of support with amendments for SB 944 to the Finance Committee on March 19.</p>
SB 1040 (HB 1407)- Budget Reconciliation and Financing Act of 2019	<p>Authorizing or altering the distribution of certain revenue; altering or repealing certain required appropriations; altering the cap for fiscal 2020 from 0.5% to 0.25% on a certain adjustment to a certain revenue estimate relating to nonwithholding income tax revenues; altering, for fiscal year 2020, a certain budgeted Medicaid Deficit Assessment; authorizing the transfer of certain funds; authorizing the use of \$2,000,000 from the Maryland Trauma Physician Services Fund for Medicaid provider reimbursements;</p>	<p>SB 1040 HB 1407 HB 1407 Position Paper</p>	<p>MHA testified in support of SB 1040 with amendments on March 13. In the Senate - Conference Committee Appointed</p>
HB 167- Juvenile Causes- Safe Haven Newborns	<p>Requiring a local department of social services that files a petition alleging that a safe haven newborn is a child in need of assistance to publish in a newspaper or other publication or website a notice containing certain information regarding the newborn to include a notice to the mother regarding her voluntary relinquishment;</p>	<p>HB 167 HB 167 Position Paper</p>	<p>MHA testified in support of HB 167 with amendments on Feb. 7 before the Judiciary Committee.</p>
HB 894- Criminal Law - Felony Second Degree Assault - Emergency Medical Care Workers	<p>Prohibiting a person from intentionally causing physical injury to another if the person knows or has reason to know that the other is a worker who is providing emergency and related services in a certain department at a certain hospital or certain freestanding medical facility; and establishing that a person who violates the Act is guilty of the felony of assault in the second degree and on conviction is subject to imprisonment not exceeding 10 years or a fine not exceeding \$5,000 or both.</p>	<p>HB 894 HB 894 Position Paper</p>	<p>MHA testified in support of HB 894 with amendments on March 13 before the Judiciary Committee.</p>

Oppose

Legislation/Issues	Synopsis	Resources	New This Week/Upcoming Dates
SB 614- Health Care Facilities - Blood Pressure Screening	Establishing that the goal of the Act is to reduce the number of individuals with untreated high blood pressure; requiring certain health care facilities to screen for hypertension each patient receiving health care services from the health care facility; requiring that the screening consist of at least one certain screening test; requiring a health care provider who obtains a certain result on a certain screening to provide a certain referral for treatment and services; etc.	SB 614 SB 614 Position Paper	MHA testified in opposition to SB 614 before the Finance Committee on March 14.
SB 773- Health Care Malpractice Qualified Expert - Qualification	Exempting certain documents relating to a health care professional's income from discovery and admission on the question of whether the health care provider qualifies as an expert in a certain health care malpractice proceeding; altering the percentage of an expert's professional activities that may have been devoted to certain activities that directly involve testimony in personal injury claims in order for the expert to qualify to testify in relation to a certain proceeding;	SB 773 SB 773 Position Paper	MHA testified in opposition to SB 773 before the Judicial Proceedings Committee on March 6.
SB 813- Personal Injury or Wrongful Death - Noneconomic Damages	Repealing a certain limitation on noneconomic damages for health care malpractice actions that arise on or after October 1, 2019; increasing certain limitations on noneconomic damages in an action for wrongful death in which there are two or more claimants or beneficiaries; and applying certain limitations on noneconomic damages in an action for personal injury or wrongful death to a health care malpractice action that arises on or after October 1, 2019.	SB 813 SB 813 Position Paper	MHA testified in opposition to SB 813 before the Judicial Proceedings Committee on March 6.
HB 455- Physicians - Discipline - Procedures and Effects	Establishing local maternal mortality review teams; requiring local teams to include certain members; requiring each local team to elect a chair; establishing that the purpose of the local teams is to prevent maternal deaths; requiring the Maryland Mortality Review Program to provide a local team with certain information and records; prohibiting the disclosure of certain information during a certain public meeting;	HB 455 HB 455 Position Paper	In the House - Unfavorable Report by Health and Government Operations; Withdrawn

Letter of Information

Legislation/Issues	Synopsis	Resources	New This Week/Upcoming Dates
SB 218 (HB 338)- Human Services - Food Supplements (Summer SNAP for Children Act)	Requiring the State to provide certain funds to counties for a certain supplement for each child in a household that receives food stamp benefits; making the provision of funding for the supplemental benefit subject to certain requirements; providing for the amount of the supplemental benefit; requiring the supplemental benefit to be provided in June, July, and August in a certain manner; requiring a county to submit a certain application and have a certain approved final plan to receive funding for the supplemental benefit; etc.	SB 218 HB 338 HB 338 Position Paper	In the House - Hearing 3/26 at 1 pm In the Senate - Second Reading Passed
SB 406 (HB 520) – Task Force on Maryland Maternal and Child Health	Establishing the Task Force on Maryland Maternal and Child Health; requiring the Task Force to study and make recommendations regarding how the policies of the Health Services Cost Review Commission can be used to incentivize early intervention and prevention of key adverse health outcomes and how payment mechanisms can be used to support and improve child care; requiring the Task Force to report its findings and recommendations to the General Assembly on or before November 1, 2019; etc.	SB 406 HB 520 HB 520 Position Paper	In the House - Hearing 3/20 at 1 pm In the Senate - First Reading Finance
SB 445 (HB 247) – Maryland Health Care Commission – Surgical Birth Rate - Study	Requiring the Maryland Health Care Commission, in consultation with the Maternal and Child Health Bureau, the Vital Statistics Administration, and interested stakeholders, to conduct a study regarding the surgical birth rate in the State; requiring the Commission to examine the rate of complications, increased health care costs, and global research programs related to surgical births; requiring the Commission to report its recommendations to certain committees of the General Assembly on or before November 1, 2020;	SB 445 HB 247 HB 247 Position Paper	In the Senate - Unfavorable Report by Finance; Withdrawn In the House - Unfavorable Report by Health and Government Operations; Withdrawn
SB 619- University of Maryland Medical System Corporation - Board of Directors - Conflicts of Interest, Prestige of Office, and Financial Disclosure	Prohibiting a member of the Board of Directors of the University of Maryland Medical System Corporation from being employed by or having a financial interest in an entity subject to the authority of the University of Maryland Medical System Corporation; prohibiting a member of the Board from intentionally using the prestige of office for private gain or the gain of another; and altering the financial disclosure requirements for certain members of the Board.	SB 619 SB 619 Position Paper	MHA submitted a letter of information on SB 619 to the Senate Finance Committee on March 14.

<p>SB 759 (HB 768)- Health - Prescription Drug Affordability Board</p>	<p>Establishing the Prescription Drug Affordability Board as an instrumentality of the State the purpose of which is to protect State residents and certain stakeholders within the health care system from the high costs of prescription drug products; requiring certain conflicts of interest to be considered when appointing Board members; requiring the Board to identify certain prescription drug products with certain costs; establishing the Prescription Drug Affordability Stakeholder Council;</p>	<p>SB 759 HB 768 HB 768 Position Paper</p>	<p>MHA submitted a letter of information on SB 759 to the Finance Committee on March 6.</p> <p>MHA submitted a letter of information on HB 768 to the Health & Government Operations Committee on March 6.</p>
<p>SB 661 (HB 733)- Primary and Secondary Education - Community Schools - Established</p>	<p>Establishing community schools in the State; requiring a community school to have a community school coordinator and a community school leadership team; requiring the community school leadership team to conduct a certain assessment of needs and assets and to develop a certain implementation plan; requiring the community school leadership team, in cooperation with the community school coordinator, to oversee the implementation of the plan; authorizing local school systems to form a school-community partnership; etc.</p>	<p>SB 661 HB 733 HB 733 Position Paper</p>	<p>MHA submitted a letter of information on SB 661 to the Ways & Means Committee on March 21.</p> <p>MHA submitted a letter of information on HB 733 to the Ways & Means Committee on Feb. 28.</p>
<p>SB 1028- Rural Health Care Scholarship and Grant Program - Established</p>	<p>Establishing the Rural Health Care Scholarship and Grant Program to increase the availability of primary health care in rural areas of the State by providing financial assistance to certain students and health care professionals; requiring a recipient of a certain scholarship or grant award to provide certain health-related services in a rural area of the State for 1 year for each year the individual received the award; requiring funds for the Program to be provided in the Governor's annual budget for the Higher Education Commission; etc.</p>	<p>SB 1028 SB 1028 Position Paper</p>	<p>MHA submitted a letter of information on SB 1028 to the Finance Committee on March 20.</p>
<p>SB 1030 (HB 1413)- The Blueprint for Maryland's Future</p>	<p>Establishing principles of The Blueprint for Maryland's Future that are intended to transform Maryland's early childhood, primary, and secondary education system to the levels of high-performing systems around the world; establishing a Concentration of Poverty School Grant Program; extending by 1 year, to 2021, the requirement for the State to provide a supplemental grant to eligible county boards; establishing the Teacher Collaborative Grant Program; requiring certain performance evaluations of local school systems;</p>	<p>SB 1030 HB 1413 SB 1030 Position Paper</p>	<p>MHA submitted a letter of information on SB 1030 to the Education, Health & Environmental Affairs Committee on March 6.</p> <p>MHA submitted a letter of information on HB 1413 to the House Ways & Means and Appropriation Committees on March 13.</p>

HB 378- Public Health - State-Provided Health Care Benefits	<p>Establishing the Office of Health Care Coverage in the Maryland Department of Health to establish and carry out the HealthcareMaryland Program to provide benefits to State residents who do not receive federal benefits through Medicare, TRICARE, plans that are subject to ERISA, or any other federal medical program; requiring the Office to contract with a certain number of managed care organizations; requiring certain employers to pay to the Secretary of Labor, Licensing, and Regulation a certain annual payroll tax; etc.</p>	<p>HB 378 HB 378 Position Paper</p>	<p>MHA submitted a letter of information on HB 378 to the Health & Government Operations Committee on March 14.</p>
SB 649- Health Care Facilities - Change in Bed Capacity - Certificate of Need Exemption	<p>Exempting an increase or decrease in bed capacity from the certificate of need requirement if the increase or decrease will occur in a certain intermediate care facility that has a current license issued by the Secretary of Health, an existing general hospice program that has a current license issued by the Secretary, or a hospital with acute psychiatric beds under certain circumstances that has a current license issued by the Secretary and certain notice is filed with the Maryland Health Care Commission within a certain period of time.</p>	<p>SB 649 SB 649 Position Paper</p>	<p>In the House - First Reading Health and Government Operations</p>
HB 626- Health Care Facilities - Change in Bed Capacity - Certificate of Need Exemption	<p>Exempting an increase or decrease in bed capacity from the certificate of need requirement if the increase or decrease will occur in a certain intermediate care facility that has a current license issued by the Secretary of Health, an existing general hospice program that has a current license issued by the Secretary, and certain notice is filed with the Maryland Health Care Commission at least 45 days before increasing or decreasing bed capacity; requiring the Commission to review a certain chapter of the State Health Plan</p>	<p>HB 626 HB 626 Position Paper</p>	<p>In the Senate - First Reading Finance</p>
HB 1087- Public Health - Healthy Maryland Program - Establishment	<p>Providing that the General Assembly finds that all State residents have a right to health care; providing it is the intent of the General Assembly to establish a comprehensive universal single-payer health care coverage program and a health care cost control system; establishing Healthy Maryland as a public corporation and a unit of State government to provide comprehensive universal health coverage for every State resident; requiring Healthy Maryland to provide certain services for residents of the State by January 1, 2021; etc.</p>	<p>HB 1087 HB 1087 Position Paper</p>	<p>MHA submitted a letter of information on HB 1087 to the Health & Government Operations Committee on March 14.</p>

Letter of Concern

Legislation/Issues	Synopsis	Resources	New This Week/Upcoming Dates
SB 430 (HB 696)- Maryland Health Care Commission - Authorized Prescribers - Reporting of Financial Gratuities or Incentives	Requiring each authorized prescriber who receives a financial gratuity or incentive from a pharmaceutical distributor or manufacturer to file a certain disclosure form with the Maryland Health Care Commission within 30 days of the receipt of the financial gratuity or incentive: authorizing the Commission to impose a fine of up to \$1,000 per violation; requiring the Commission to adopt certain regulations; and providing for the prospective application of the Act.	SB 430 HB 696 SB 430 Position Paper	In the Senate - Unfavorable Report by Finance; Withdrawn In the House - Unfavorable Report by Health and Government Operations; Withdrawn
SB 469 (HB 409)- Drugs and Devices - Electronic Prescriptions - Requirements	Requiring, except under certain circumstances, a certain health practitioner to issue a prescription electronically; authorizing an authorized prescriber to issue a written or oral prescription only under certain circumstances; requiring the Secretary of Health, in collaboration with the Maryland Health Care Commission, to adopt certain regulations regarding a certain waiver that includes certain provisions;	SB 469 HB 409 HB 409 Position Paper	MHA submitted a letter of concern on SB 469 to the Finance Committee on Feb. 27. MHA submitted a letter of concern on HB 409 to the Health and Government Operations Committee on Feb. 13
SB 599 (HB 1273)- Immigration Enforcement - County Boards of Education, Public Institutions of Higher Education, and Hospitals - Policies	Requiring each county board of education, public institution of higher education, and hospital to establish a policy on or before July 1, 2020 that limits immigration enforcement on the premises to the fullest extent possible consistent with federal and State law based on certain guidelines established by the Attorney General; and requiring the Attorney General, in consultation with certain stakeholders, to develop certain guidelines on or before December 31, 2019.	SB 599 HB 1273 SB 599 Position Paper	MHA submitted a letter of concern on SB 599 to the Judicial Proceedings Committee on Feb. 27 In the Senate - First Reading Judicial Proceedings and Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

SB 602 (HB 796)- Public Health - Maternal Mortality Review Program - Establishment of Local Teams	Establishing local maternal mortality review teams; requiring local teams to include certain members; requiring each local team to elect a chair; establishing that the purpose of the local teams is to prevent maternal deaths; requiring the Maryland Mortality Review Program to provide a local team with certain information and records; prohibiting the disclosure of certain information during a certain public meeting;	SB 602 HB 796 SB 602 Position Paper	MHA submitted a letter of concern on SB 602 to the Finance Committee on Feb. 14. In the House - Second Reading Passed with Amendments
SB 605 (HB 971)- Hospitals - Emergency Departments - Identification, Treatment, and Rescue of Human Trafficking Victims	Requiring hospitals that provide emergency medical services to have a certain protocol and, to the extent practicable, a trained forensic nurse examiner on staff who is present at all times in the hospital's emergency department to identify, treat, and rescue victims of human trafficking who arrive at the emergency department for treatment;	SB 605 HB 971 HB 971 Position Paper	MHA submitted a letter of concern and testified on SB 605, before the Senate Finance Committee on March 14. MHA submitted a letter of concern and testified on HB 971 before the Health & Government Operations Committee on March 4.
SB 903 (HB 892)- Health Information - Commercial Sale	Requiring a covered entity, business associate, or subcontractor to obtain authorization from an individual before engaging in the commercial sale of certain health information; requiring a covered entity, business associate, or subcontractor to inform an individual that they may elect to receive a share of any payment received by the covered entity, business associate, or subcontractor for the commercial sale of certain health information before the individual authorizes a certain sale; etc.	SB 903 HB 892 HB 892 Position Paper	MHA submitted a letter of concern on SB 903 to the Finance Committee on March 20. MHA submitted a letter of concern on HB 892 to the Health & Government Operations Committee on Feb. 28
SB 953 (HB 856)- Health Care Facilities - Hospitals and Related Institutions - Discrimination Protections	Altering the actions with regard to which hospitals and related institutions are prohibited from discriminating against individuals on certain bases; altering the characteristics of an individual on the basis of which hospitals and related institutions are prohibited from discriminating against the individual in certain actions;	SB 953 HB 856 HB 856 Position Paper	MHA submitted a letter of concern on SB 953 to the Finance Committee on March 20. MHA submitted a letter of concern on HB 856 to the Health & Government Operations Committee on March 4.

HB 940- Unregulated Space in Hospital Operating Suites Pilot Project	Establishing an unregulated space in hospital operating suites pilot project; requiring the pilot project to be operated by the Health Services Cost Review Commission; authorizing the Commission to allow up to five hospitals to participate in the pilot project; providing that certain hospitals may be subject to a certain rate determination; authorizing certain hospitals to make available certain operating room space to certain patients and payers under certain conditions;	HB 940 HB 940 Position Paper	MHA submitted a letter of concern and testified on HB 940 before the Health & Government Operations Committee on March 4.
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