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November 5, 2020

The Honorable Phil Murphy
Governor
State of New Jersey
The State House
P.O. Box 001
Trenton, NJ 08625

Re: New Jersey Senate Bill 2465 (S.B. 2465) - Support

Dear Governor Murphy:

On behalf of the American Medical Association (AMA) and our physician and medical student members, I write to strongly encourage you to sign Senate Bill 2465 (S.B. 2465), the New Jersey Health Care Transparency Act, into law. This common-sense legislation has already been adopted by more than 20 states, ensuring much needed transparency in the health care system. The simple requirements outlined in the legislation, such as requiring all health care professionals to include their professional license and degree in any advertisements and their level of training and legal licensure on a name badge, will go a long way toward making sure patients know who is providing their health care.

This legislation is especially important with the proliferation of health professionals with varying levels of education and training. Research overwhelmingly shows patients want physicians leading their health care team, with 84 percent of patients stating they prefer a physician to have primary responsibility for the diagnosis and management of their health care. Yet, patients are often not able to distinguish between health professionals without information on one's education, professional license and degree. Patients deserve to know who is providing their health care and S.B. 2465 provides this clarity.

For all these reasons, we strongly encourage you to sign the New Jersey Health Care Transparency Act into law. Thank you for the opportunity to provide our input. Please contact Kimberly Horvath, JD, Senior Legislative Attorney, AMA Advocacy Resource Center, at kimberly.horvath@ama-assn.org or (630) 251-7118 with any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "James L. Madara". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J" and "M".

James L. Madara, MD

cc: Medical Society of New Jersey