



JAMES L. MADARA, MD
EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT, CEO

ama-assn.org
t (312) 464-5000

January 26, 2018

The Honorable Joan Carter Conway
Chair
Education, Health, and
Environmental Affairs Committee
Maryland Senate
Miller Senate Office Building, 2 West Wing
11 Bladen Street
Annapolis, MD 21401

Re: AMA Support for Maryland Senate Bill 234

Dear Chair Conway:

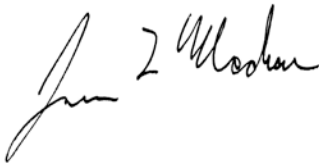
On behalf of the American Medical Association (AMA) and our physician and student members, I am writing in support of Maryland Senate Bill 234, which would effectuate Maryland's participation in the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact (the Compact)—a licensing option under which qualified physicians seeking to practice in multiple states would be eligible for expedited licensure in all states participating in the Compact. To date, 22 states are participating in the Compact, including your neighboring states of Pennsylvania and West Virginia, and potentially, the District of Columbia, where legislation is pending.

The AMA supports the Compact because it streamlines the process for physicians to obtain licenses in multiple states. This expedited process will help facilitate license portability and allow physicians to practice medicine—including telemedicine—in a safe and accountable manner while protecting patients and expanding access to care, particularly in rural and underserved areas. As you know, a physician's impact is felt far beyond the exam room, reaching through local communities, producing a network of jobs and spurring local investment. Each Maryland physician is a significant economic driver. On average, each Maryland physician creates \$2.2 million in economic output, supporting 12.1 jobs and \$1.1 million in wages and benefits, and contributing \$101,947 in state and local tax revenues. Participation in the Compact will thus not only build the physician workforce and ensure patient access to care, but also grow Maryland's state and local economies.

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Thank you for the opportunity to provide our input. If you have any questions, please contact Kristin Schleiter, JD, Senior Legislative Attorney, Advocacy Resource Center, at kristin.schleiter@ama-assn.org or (312) 464-4783. We look forward to working with you toward enactment of this important legislation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jim L Madara". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J" and "M".

James L. Madara, MD

cc: MedChi, Maryland State Medical Society