

January 23, 2017

The Honorable Mark Formby
Mississippi House of Representatives
Room 402-B
P. O. Box 1018
Jackson, MS 39215

Re: American Medical Association **support** for HB 49, to protect patients' privacy and personal health information

Dear Representative Formby:

On behalf of the American Medical Association (AMA) and our physician and student members, I write in support of House Bill 49 (HB 49), which would safeguard patients' privacy and personal health information contained in prescription drug monitoring programs (PDMP). As a threshold matter, the AMA strongly supports the use of PDMPs to help physicians make more informed decisions when considering a patient's treatment plan. PDMP, when they contain real-time, accurate data, can help physicians better understand a patient's full prescription history.

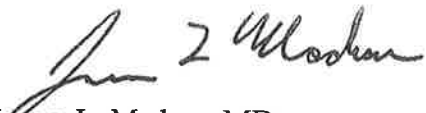
Because these databases contain a patient's full prescription history, the AMA believes that it is imperative that patients and physicians have the confidence that the information receives the highest level of privacy protections. PDMPs will reveal, for example, whether a patient has received prescriptions to help treat a wide range of conditions ranging from cancer, sleep apnea, hormone replacement therapy, attention deficit disorder, and many other medical conditions that are best left between the patient and physician – or other health professionals on a limited basis.

HB 49 would retain regulatory and licensing boards' authority, as well as law enforcement's appropriate review of PDMP data to help constrain illicit drug use. The bill would also provide important protections for patients and health care professionals who prescribe controlled substances that their personal health information would not be used in civil proceedings. The AMA supports this type of common sense protection and urges the Judiciary Committee to favorably report this bill to the full House of Representatives.

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If you have any questions, please contact Daniel Blaney-Koen, JD, Senior Legislative Attorney, Advocacy Resource Center at daniel.blaney-koen@ama-assn.org or (312) 464-4954.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Jim L Madara".

James L. Madara, MD

cc: Mark Baker
Cory Wilson
Mississippi State Medical Association



DATE: 1/20/17

**EXECUTIVE OFFICES
Transmittal Note**

TYPE OF CORRESPONDENCE:

- Letter
- Mass Mailing
- Memo
- Other

ADDRESSED TO:

MARK Formby
MS House of Representatives

SUBJECT: (Title and short description of document purpose.)

AMA support of MS HB 49 PDMP

INSTRUCTIONS - STAFF INITIATED DOCUMENTS FOR BOT SIGNATURE:

- 1) Do not date document.
- 2) Include in folder, original and 2 copies.
- 3) **All appropriate approvals must be obtained prior to submitting to Jon Burkhardt, COS, VP, Executive Offices.**
- 4) Your department will be contacted when item has been signed.

INSTRUCTIONS - DOCUMENTS FOR EVP/CEO SIGNATURE:

- 1) Item must be dated.
- 2) Include in folder, original response, 2 copies and 1 copy of the original correspondence if applicable.
- 3) **Appropriate approvals must be obtained before submitting to EVP Office.**
- 4) The department preparing item is responsible for coordinating, if necessary, all additional approvals and comments before submission to EVP Office.
- 5) Your department will be contacted when item has been signed by the EVP/CEO.

APPROVALS:

- 1) Author Daniel Blaney Keen
- 2) Immediate Supervisor [Signature]
- 3) SVP or Designate Richard Deem MA

Extension 4984

DOES THE ATTACHED ITEM REQUIRE ADDITIONAL APPROVAL OR REVIEW BY OTHERS?

ADDITIONAL APPROVALS:

COMMENTS: (Attach additional information if needed.)

- Advocacy _____
- Finance _____
- OGC _____
- Other SMG _____
- Other SMG _____
- Other SMG _____

When approved, please call Wendy Holmes

Extension 4739

FOR EXECUTIVE OFFICES USE ONLY

- COO _____
- CSO _____

COS Jan 1/20/2017

Executive Offices Jan 1/23/2017

EVP/CEO Jan approved for [Signature]

Dr. Malina 1/20/2017

If you have any questions, please contact the Executive Offices at extensions 5049 or 4307.