

# MedChi

*The Maryland State Medical Society*

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TO: The Honorable Joseline A. Pena-Melnyk, Chair  
Members, House Health and Government Operations Committee  
The Honorable Joe Vogel

FROM: Christine K. Krone  
Pamela Metz Kasemeyer  
J. Steven Wise  
Danna L. Kauffman  
Andrew G. Vetter

DATE: March 1, 2024

RE: **LETTER OF INFORMATION** – House Bill 1121 – *Public Health – Opioids and Opioid Overdose Reversal Drugs – Information*

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The Maryland State Medical Society (MedChi), the largest physician organization in Maryland, is providing a **letter of information** House Bill 1121.

The bill requires a licensed health care provider who prescribes or dispenses an opioid or an opioid reversal drug to provide information regarding 1) the potential dangers of the opioid; 2) overdose prevention; 3) availability and use of a drug approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration as an opioid antagonist for the complete or partial reversal of opioid-induced respiratory depression.

While MedChi understands the intent of the legislation and applauds the sponsor's desire for patients to receive this type of information it should be noted that this is already the standard of care. MedChi historically believes legislating the standard of care in statute is unwise as the standard of care continually evolves.

**For more information call:**

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