



# **Medical Association of Georgia**

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# Medical Association of Georgia

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- Founded in 1849
- Leading voice for medical profession in Georgia
- Nearly 7,500 members
- MAG creates value for every physician in Georgia because MAG represents every physician in Georgia
- Leader in state legal and legislative arenas
- Members include solo physicians, small group physicians, multispecialty physicians, health system physicians, as well as academic institutions



# Federal Advocacy

## Ensuring patient access

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- **Sustainable Growth Rate**
    - 24% cuts January 1
    - Congressional Action?
  - **ICD-10**
    - Implementation on October 1, 2014
    - HR 1701 (Poe) and S 972 (Coburn) – halts implementation
  - **Telemedicine**
    - Telehealth services occur at location of practitioner, not patient
    - Will eventually remove need for state licensure and promote national licensure
    - HR 3507 (Peters, Thompson, Harper)
  - **Narrow Networks**
    - Medicare Advantage and United Healthcare
    - Health Insurance Exchanges
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# State Legislative Advocacy

## Enhancing the practice environment

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- **Preserving Physician Autonomy**
  - Transparency Bill
  - Scope of Practice Challenges
- **Medicaid Reform**
- **Tort Reform**
  - Oppose SB 141 – Patients Compensation System
  - Early Resolution of Claims
- **Health Insurance Reform**
  - MAG will promote the prohibition of “all products clauses.”
- **Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA)**
  - Implementation of health insurance exchanges/protecting patients/physicians
- **Increasing Access to Care**
  - Tax credits for rural areas
  - Limited license for internationally trained physicians
- **Prescription Drugs Monitoring Program**



# Opposition to SB 141

## Bad for physicians=bad for patients

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- **Legal Challenges**
  - Unconstitutional
  - Mandatory National Practitioner Database Reporting
- **Increase Costs**
  - 13% to 105% cost of current system
- **Increase Claims**
  - Over 1730% increase on “insignificant injury”
- **Physician/Healthcare Provider Tax**
  - \$30 million in new taxes



# For more information...

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[www.mag.org](http://www.mag.org)

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Look for the “Medical Association of Georgia” on Facebook

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