

R048-0910

10 A Resolution Concerning  
20 THE REFORM OF THE MEDICAL TORT LAWS IN THE STATE OF MARYLAND

30 **WHEREAS:** Reforms to the medical malpractice tort laws are shown to lower the  
40 cost of health care across the board; and,

50 **WHEREAS:** The current system allows for too many frivolous suits to be filed,  
60 thus causing the courts to be over run with unmerited cases; and,

70 **WHEREAS:** The current system yields the practice of defensive medicine; and,

80 **WHEREAS:** Defensive medicine is the practice of exhausting all possible tests and  
90 procedures that often do not help the patient but lower the doctor's  
100 chance of facing a lawsuit; and,

110 **WHEREAS:** 95% of doctors admit to practicing defensive medicine; and,

120 **WHEREAS:** The costs of defensive medicine are passed on directly to the patients;  
130 and,

140 **WHEREAS:** Reducing doctor's liability would greatly reduce the practice and cost  
150 of defensive medicine, and thus reduce the cost of health care; and,

160 **WHEREAS:** The current health care system is exceedingly wasteful; and,

170 **WHEREAS:** The waste of the system drives up the cost of health care across the  
180 board;

190 **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:** That the Maryland Student Legislature urges the  
200 Maryland General Assembly to seriously consider any and all reforms  
210 to the medical malpractice tort laws in the great State of Maryland for  
220 the purpose of lowering health care costs.

230 **MANDATES:**  
240 Governor Martin O'Malley  
250 Lt. Governor Anthony Brown  
260 Senator Allan Kittleman, Senate Minority Leader  
270 Senator Nancy Jacobs, Senate Minority Whip  
280 Senator Andy Harris

**SPONSOR:**  
Marcella Morris  
University of Maryland, College Park  
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