



To: House Health and Aging Committee

Fr: Tim Maglione, JD, Senior Director, Government Relations
Monica Hueckel, Director, Government Relations

Da: October 13, 2015

Re: OSMA Statement on HB 224

On behalf of the 20,000 members of the Ohio State Medical Association (OSMA), we would like to express our support for HB 224, a bill that would require each accountable care organization (ACO) to establish a clinical laboratory testing advisory board.

Since their creation, ACO's have proven to be very effective in coordinating patient care and helping patients reach optimal health outcomes. OSMA supports this legislation because we believe it will encourage the adoption of best medical practices in regards to pathology and laboratory testing within each ACO.

Clinical laboratory and pathology testing results in over 70% of medical decision-making. Creating advisory boards that look at what methods and models of laboratory and pathology testing are working, we believe will ensure higher quality of care, better health outcomes and potentially lower health care costs.

The clinical advisory board will make recommendations to the ACO which will include guidelines and protocols for each of the following:

- Clinical laboratory testing used for diagnosis and disease management;
- Pathologist consultation on episodes of care;
- Appropriate use of clinical laboratory testing.

Each advisory board is designed to promote collaboration among physicians of the ACO who have extensive expertise in clinical laboratory and pathology testing. OSMA believes having physicians lead the advisory boards will ensure quality of care and patients' interest are the highest priority.

Thank you for your consideration of the OSMA's views on HB 224. Please do not hesitate to contact us with any questions or comments.

Regards,

Tim Maglione, JD
Senior Director, Government Relations
614-527-6746

Monica Hueckel
Director, Government Relations
614-527-6745