



MEDIA RELEASE
For Immediate Release

Date: March 25, 2009
Contact: Shelia L. Green
Phone: 410-715-3171

CA pledges its support of Maryland House Bill 711 – Income Tax – Subtraction Modification - The Healthy Improvement and Disease Prevention Act of 2009

The Columbia Association (CA) Acting President Rob Goldman testified Thursday, March 19, on behalf of CA, the Howard County Board of Health and the CA Medical Advisory Board, who all unanimously support Maryland House Bill 711, Income Tax – Subtraction Modification - Healthy Improvement and Disease Prevention Act of 2009. The bill would offer tax incentives for healthy lifestyle choices, such as participating in a smoking/tobacco cessation or weight loss program; purchasing a treadmill or taking a martial arts class. Goldman, CA’s vice-president of Sport & Fitness and a member of the Howard County Board of Health, spoke to the Maryland House of Delegates’ Ways and Means Committee in Annapolis.

The Income Tax – Subtraction Modification - Healthy Improvement and Disease Prevention Act of 2009 is being proposed by the Coalition for a Healthy Maryland in order to promote disease prevention, curb the escalating cost of lifestyle-related health disorders and improve the health of Maryland residents. The bill encompasses several aims: combating childhood obesity; reducing smoking and tobacco use; promoting senior fitness and wellness; promoting adult physical activity and promoting healthy weight loss. HB 711 is available for view at <http://mlis.state.md.us/2009rs/bills/hb/hb0711f.pdf>.

###

10221 Wincopin Circle
Columbia, Maryland 21044
Switchboard: 410-715-3000
Fax 410-715-0389