Medical Societies Joint Statement on HB 443

“Our organizations, representing physicians of various medical specialties who lead teams of health professionals each day, stand united in opposition to legislation such as HB 443 that would dismantle the proven, successful care delivery model known as "collaborative practice." In a collaborative practice, physicians, nurse practitioners and nurse midwives work closely with one another and other health professionals to care for patients in both the inpatient and outpatient settings. The physician-led team approach fosters integrated, cost-effective care provision where every individual member of the team’s education and training can be best utilized to take care of patients. Unfortunately, proposals such as HB 443 would move Alabama in the opposite direction, unnecessarily splintering care at a time when all other segments of our health system are moving toward greater collaboration and increased coordination of care. Our organizations value highly the daily contributions made by our nursing colleagues and believe continuation of the collaborative, team-based care delivery model – not a more fragmented approach such as HB 443 would provide – is in the best interest of our state and our patients.”