

CHAPTER 68

(House Bill 350)

AN ACT concerning

State Employees' Health Insurance Advisory Council – Repeal

FOR the purpose of repealing the State Employees' Health Insurance Advisory Council; repealing the functions and duties of the Council; and generally relating to the State Employees' Health Insurance Advisory Council.

BY repealing

Article – State Personnel and Pensions

Section 2–505 and 2–506

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2004 Replacement Volume and 2007 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article – State Personnel and Pensions

[2–505.

- (a) There is a State Employees' Health Insurance Advisory Council.
- (b) The Advisory Council consists of the following 18 members:
 - (1) the Secretary or a designee of the Secretary;
 - (2) a representative of each of the following, appointed by the Governor:
 - (i) the Department of Budget and Management;
 - (ii) the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene;
 - (iii) the University System of Maryland Administration;
 - (iv) the Department of Transportation;
 - (v) the Insurance Commissioner;
 - (vi) the State Comptroller;

- (vii) the President of the Senate;
- (viii) the Speaker of the House of Delegates;
- (ix) the Maryland Classified Employees Association, Inc.;
- (x) the Maryland Federation of Nurses and Health Professionals;
- (xi) the Maryland Professional Employees Council;
- (xii) the State Law Enforcement Officers Labor Alliance;
- (xiii) the Maryland Troopers Association; and
- (xiv) the public; and

(3) three representatives of the American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees, appointed by the Governor.

(c) The Governor shall appoint a chairman from among the members of the Advisory Council.

(d) The Secretary or the Secretary's designee shall serve as a continuing member.

(e) (1) The term of an appointed member is 2 years.

(2) The terms of appointed members are staggered as required by the terms provided for members of the Advisory Council on September 30, 1993.

(3) At the end of a term, a member continues to serve until a successor is appointed and qualifies.

(4) A member who is appointed after a term has begun serves for the rest of the term and until a successor is appointed and qualifies.]

[2-506.

(a) The Advisory Council shall advise the Secretary on:

(1) health insurance benefit options that should be included in the Program;

(2) types of health care providers that should be used to provide health insurance benefits under the Program;

(3) procedures for soliciting bids or requesting proposals from health care providers for contracts for the Program;

(4) the implementation, maintenance, and administration of the health insurance benefits under the Program; and

(5) negotiations involving health insurance benefits under the Program.

(b) The Advisory Council shall meet at least quarterly at the times and places that it determines.

(c) The Advisory Council shall:

(1) maintain a record of its meetings, proceedings, and transactions;
and

(2) submit an annual report to the Governor and, subject to § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, to the General Assembly.

(d) The Secretary shall give due consideration to the concerns expressed by the Advisory Council members who are representatives of employee organizations.

(e) Each member of the Advisory Council is entitled to reimbursement for expenses under the Standard State Travel Regulations, as provided in the State budget.

(f) The Department shall provide administrative support to the Advisory Council.]

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2008.

Approved by the Governor, April 8, 2008.