

# HOUSE BILL 1377

J1

4lr2914

---

By: **Delegate B. Robinson**

Introduced and read first time: February 11, 2014

Assigned to: Rules and Executive Nominations

---

## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Office of Health Care Quality – Abuser Registry Workgroup**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring the members of the Abuser Registry Workgroup in the  
4 Office of Health Care Quality to elect a chair; requiring the Office of Health  
5 Care Quality to submit a certain report to the Governor, certain legislative  
6 committees, and the members of the Workgroup on or before a certain date;  
7 extending the termination date of the Workgroup; and generally relating to the  
8 Abuser Registry Workgroup and the Office of Health Care Quality.

9 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
10 Chapter 239 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 2013  
11 Section 1 and 2

12 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
13 Chapter 606 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 2013  
14 Section 1 and 2

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

17 **Chapter 239 of the Acts of 2013**

18 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF  
19 MARYLAND, That:

20 (a) The Office of Health Care Quality shall reconvene the Abuser Registry  
21 Workgroup originally convened in 2012.

22 (b) The Abuser Registry Workgroup shall:

---

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1                   **(1) ELECT A CHAIR FROM AMONG THE MEMBERS OF THE**  
 2 **WORKGROUP;**

3                   **[(1)] (2)** review the previous work of the Abuser Registry Workgroup  
 4 and the alternative approach described in the January 14, 2013, letter from the Acting  
 5 Executive Director of the Office of Health Care Quality to the sponsors of Senate Bill  
 6 316 and House Bill 382 of 2012;

7                   **[(2)] (3)** monitor the implementation of recommendations included in  
 8 the January 23, 2013, letter from the Acting Executive Director of the Office of Health  
 9 Care Quality to the House Health and Government Operations Committee relating to:

10                   (i) initiating a National Background Check Program supported  
 11 by a federal grant;

12                   (ii) educating the provider community about best practices for  
 13 managing abuse and neglect and utilizing the criminal justice system in cases of abuse  
 14 and neglect;

15                   (iii) assisting law enforcement in the development of outreach  
 16 and training concerning abuse and neglect in health care settings; and

17                   (iv) exploring the need to strengthen statutory law relating to  
 18 criminal history records checks of employees who are not licensed or certified under  
 19 the Health Occupations Article; and

20                   **[(3)] (4)** recommend changes in statutory law, regulations, or  
 21 procedures to deter abuse and neglect in health care settings.

22                   (c) On or before January 1, **[2014] 2015**, the Office of Health Care Quality  
 23 shall report to the Governor, **THE MEMBERS OF THE WORKGROUP**, and, in  
 24 accordance with § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, the Senate Finance  
 25 Committee and the House Health and Government Operations Committee on the  
 26 findings and recommendations of the Abuser Registry Workgroup.

27                   SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
 28 June 1, 2013. It shall remain effective for a period of **[1 year] 2 YEARS** and 1 month  
 29 and, at the end of June 30, **[2014] 2015**, with no further action required by the  
 30 General Assembly, this Act shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.

31                   **Chapter 606 of the Acts of 2013**

32                   SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF  
 33 MARYLAND, That:

1 (a) The Office of Health Care Quality shall reconvene the Abuser Registry  
2 Workgroup originally convened in 2012.

3 (b) The Abuser Registry Workgroup shall:

4 **[(1)] (2) ELECT A CHAIR FROM AMONG THE MEMBERS OF THE**  
5 **WORKGROUP;**

6 **[(1)] (2)** review the previous work of the Abuser Registry Workgroup  
7 and the alternative approach described in the January 14, 2013, letter from the Acting  
8 Executive Director of the Office of Health Care Quality to the sponsors of Senate Bill  
9 316 and House Bill 382 of 2012;

10 **[(2)] (3)** monitor the implementation of recommendations included in  
11 the January 23, 2013, letter from the Acting Executive Director of the Office of Health  
12 Care Quality to the House Health and Government Operations Committee relating to:

13 (i) initiating a National Background Check Program supported  
14 by a federal grant;

15 (ii) educating the provider community about best practices for  
16 managing abuse and neglect and utilizing the criminal justice system in cases of abuse  
17 and neglect;

18 (iii) assisting law enforcement in the development of outreach  
19 and training concerning abuse and neglect in health care settings; and

20 (iv) exploring the need to strengthen statutory law relating to  
21 criminal history records checks of employees who are not licensed or certified under  
22 the Health Occupations Article; and

23 **[(3)] (4)** recommend changes in statutory law, regulations, or  
24 procedures to deter abuse and neglect in health care settings.

25 (c) On or before January 1, **[2014] 2015**, the Office of Health Care Quality  
26 shall report to the Governor, **THE MEMBERS OF THE WORKGROUP**, and, in  
27 accordance with § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, the Senate Finance  
28 Committee and the House Health and Government Operations Committee on the  
29 findings and recommendations of the Abuser Registry Workgroup.

30 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
31 June 1, 2013. It shall remain effective for a period of **[1 year] 2 YEARS** and 1 month  
32 and, at the end of June 30, **[2014] 2015**, with no further action required by the  
33 General Assembly, this Act shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.

1           SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
2   June 1, 2014.