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**By: Chairman, Finance Committee (Departmental - Health and Mental Hygiene)**

Requested: October 25, 1995

Introduced and read first time: January 10, 1996

Assigned to: Finance

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A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Public Laboratories**

3 FOR the purpose of altering the requirement that there be certain public health and  
4 clinical laboratories; repealing the requirement that public health and clinical  
5 laboratories be located in specific areas of the State; and generally relating to public  
6 health and clinical laboratories.

7 BY repealing

8 Article - Health - General  
9 Section 17-101  
10 Annotated Code of Maryland  
11 (1994 Replacement Volume and 1995 Supplement)

12 BY adding to

13 Article - Health - General  
14 Section 17-101  
15 Annotated Code of Maryland  
16 (1994 Replacement Volume and 1995 Supplement)

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

19 **Article - Health - General**

20 [17-101.

21 (a) The Department shall have a properly equipped public health and clinical  
22 laboratory in each of the following areas:

23 (1) Annapolis;

24 (2) Cambridge;

25 (3) Cheverly;

26 (4) Easton;

27 (5) Frederick;

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1 (6) Rockville; and

2 (7) Salisbury.

3 (b) The Department may have a public health and clinical laboratory in any other  
4 area that the Department considers necessary.]

5 17-101.

6 THE SECRETARY SHALL DETERMINE THE NUMBER AND LOCATION OF PUBLIC  
7 HEALTH LABORATORIES AND MAINTAIN THOSE LABORATORIES AS NEEDED TO  
8 PROVIDE TESTING, CONSULTING, AND REGULATORY SUPPORT OF INFECTIOUS  
9 DISEASE, EPIDEMIOLOGY, ENVIRONMENTAL, AND REGULATORY PUBLIC HEALTH  
10 PROGRAMS.

11 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
12 July 1, 1996.