

---

**By: Delegate Workman**

Rules suspended

Introduced and read first time: March 14, 1997

Assigned to: Rules and Executive Nominations

---

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **State Personnel - Health and Welfare Benefits Program - Mental Health and Substance**  
3 **Abuse Benefits**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring the Secretary of Budget and Management, in arranging  
5 mental health and substance abuse benefit options under the State Employee and  
6 Retiree Health and Welfare Benefits Program, to ensure that, in the event of a  
7 change in administrators of the State's mental health and substance abuse plan, a  
8 successor plan administrator makes available to covered individuals certain  
9 categories of health care providers; and generally relating to health and welfare  
10 benefits for State employees.

11 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
12 Article - State Personnel and Pensions  
13 Section 2-503(b)  
14 Annotated Code of Maryland  
15 (1994 Volume and 1996 Supplement)

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

18 **Article - State Personnel and Pensions**

19 2-503.

20 (b) (1) [The] SUBJECT TO PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION, THE  
21 Secretary may arrange as the Secretary considers appropriate any benefit option for  
22 inclusion in the Program.

23 (2) IN ARRANGING MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE BENEFIT  
24 OPTIONS, THE SECRETARY SHALL ENSURE THAT, IN THE EVENT OF A CHANGE IN  
25 ADMINISTRATORS OF THE STATE'S MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE PLAN,  
26 ANY SUCCESSOR PLAN ADMINISTRATOR SHALL MAKE THE SAME CATEGORIES OF  
27 HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS AVAILABLE TO COVERED INDIVIDUALS AS THE  
28 PREVIOUS PLAN ADMINISTRATOR.

29 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
30 October 1, 1997.

