

BY: Finance Committee

AMENDMENT TO SENATE BILL NO. 85

(First Reading File Bill, Second Printing)

On page 3, after line 14, insert:

“SECTION 5. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, in consultation with the Maryland Insurance Administration, the Health Care Access and Cost Commission, the business community, and the health insurance industry, shall conduct a study to determine the effect the Maryland Children’s Health Program has or may have on the availability of private health care coverage to the Program’s target population and on the willingness of the families of the target population to purchase private health care coverage. The study shall recommend ways to encourage and increase the availability and purchase of private coverage. The study shall also examine the feasibility and cost effectiveness of providing comprehensive medical care and other health care services to Program recipients through the private market, including the prospect for purchasing dependent medical coverage through an employer-sponsored health plan. If a private market proposal is found to be feasible, the Department shall apply to the federal Health Care Financing Administration for a waiver, if necessary, and take any other steps necessary to implement the proposal. The Department shall report the results of its study to the Senate Finance Committee, the House Environmental Matters Committee, and, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, the General Assembly, on or before December 31, 1998.”;

and in lines 15 and 20, strike “5.” and “6.”, respectively, and substitute “6.” and “7.”, respectively.