

By: **Delegate Hurson**  
Introduced and read first time: February 13, 1998  
Assigned to: Environmental Matters

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Outpatient Mental Health Clinics - Grant Funding**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring the Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene to continue  
4 after June 30, 1998, a certain transitional grant funding option that was in  
5 effect for certain outpatient mental health clinics on a certain date; providing  
6 that this Act may not be construed to prohibit the Secretary from increasing a  
7 certain rate of reimbursement; and generally relating to funding for certain  
8 outpatient mental health clinics.

9 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,  
10 Article - Health - General  
11 Section 1-101(a) and (i) and 10-902  
12 Annotated Code of Maryland  
13 (1994 Replacement Volume and 1997 Supplement)

14 BY adding to  
15 Article - Health - General  
16 Section 10-902.1  
17 Annotated Code of Maryland  
18 (1994 Replacement Volume and 1997 Supplement)

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

21 **Article - Health - General**

22 1-101.

23 (a) In this article the following words have the meanings indicated.

24 (i) "Secretary" means the Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene.

1 10-902.

2 (a) (1) In accordance with the State budget and the rules and regulations  
3 that the Secretary adopts, the Secretary may make grants from or agreements for the  
4 use of State and federal funds to help public agencies or nonprofit organizations  
5 establish and operate local mental health programs to provide the following:

6 (i) Inpatient services.

7 (ii) Outpatient services.

8 (iii) Partial care services, including day care services and night care  
9 services.

10 (iv) 24-hour emergency services.

11 (v) Aftercare services.

12 (vi) Consultation services.

13 (vii) Education services.

14 (viii) Other preventive or rehabilitation services or treatment.

15 (ix) Community residential programs for children and adolescents.

16 (2) Research and training that are designed to improve or extend these  
17 services are proper items of expense.

18 (b) (1) Services under this section shall be provided by public agencies or,  
19 under contract, by nonprofit organizations and private community-based  
20 organizations.

21 (2) Nothing in this section shall prohibit the Secretary from contracting  
22 with individual licensed mental health care providers, including psychiatrists,  
23 psychologists, social workers, and psychiatric nurses.

24 10-902.1.

25 (A) NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER LAW OR REGULATION, THE SECRETARY  
26 SHALL CONTINUE AFTER JUNE 30, 1998, THE TRANSITION GRANT FUNDING OPTION  
27 THAT WAS IN EFFECT FOR OUTPATIENT MENTAL HEALTH CLINICS ON JANUARY 1,  
28 1998, AS SPECIFIED IN THE CODE OF MARYLAND REGULATIONS 10.21.25.01F.

29 (B) THIS SECTION MAY NOT BE CONSTRUED TO PROHIBIT THE SECRETARY  
30 FROM INCREASING THE RATE OF REIMBURSEMENT UNDER THE TRANSITION GRANT  
31 FUNDING OPTION THAT WAS IN EFFECT FOR OUTPATIENT MENTAL HEALTH CLINICS  
32 ON JANUARY 1, 1998, AS SPECIFIED IN THE CODE OF MARYLAND REGULATIONS  
33 10.21.25.01F.

1 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
2 June 1, 1998.