

BY: Environmental Matters Committee

AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE BILL NO. 791

(First Reading File Bill)

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 1, in the sponsor line, strike “and Stull” and substitute “Stull, and Stern”.

AMENDMENT NO. 2

On page 1, strike in its entirety line 2 and substitute “Task Force on Staffing Requirements in Nursing Facilities”; strike beginning with “requiring” in line 3 down through “facilities” in line 13 and substitute “establishing a Task Force on Staffing Requirements in Nursing Facilities to examine certain staffing requirements in nursing facilities; requiring the Task Force to submit a certain report on or before a certain date; providing for the membership of the Task Force; requiring the Governor to appoint the Chairman of the Task Force; requiring the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene to staff the Task Force; providing that a member of the Task Force may not be compensated but may receive travel expenses; providing for the termination date of the Task Force; and generally relating to a Task Force to examine the staffing requirements in nursing facilities”; strike in their entirety lines 14 through 23, inclusive; and in line 25, strike “the Laws of Maryland read as follows”.

AMENDMENT NO. 3

On pages 2 through 4, strike beginning with line 1 on page 2 through line 16 on page 4, inclusive, and substitute:

“(a) There is a Task Force on Staffing Requirements in Nursing Facilities.

(b) The Task Force shall consist of the following members:

(1) a member of the Senate Finance Committee, appointed by the President of the Senate;

(2) a member of the House Environmental Matters Committee, appointed by the

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Speaker of the House;

(3) the Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene, or the Secretary's designee;

(4) two representatives from the nursing facility industry, appointed by the Governor;

(5) a registered nurse with training and experience in geriatric medicine, appointed by the Governor;

(6) a certified nursing assistant with training and experience in geriatric medicine, appointed by the Governor;

(7) a licensed physician with training and experience in geriatric medicine, appointed by the Governor;

(8) a licensed social worker, appointed by the Governor;

(9) a representative from a local union representing employees in nursing facilities, appointed by the Governor;

(10) a public member representing a patient advocacy group for seniors, appointed by the Governor; and

(11) two consumers of nursing facility services which may include a consumer who has a relative in a nursing facility, appointed by the Governor.

(b) The Governor shall designate one of the members as chairman of the Task Force.

(c) The Task Force shall:

(1) examine the staffing patterns and standards that currently exist in nursing facilities in Maryland;

(2) conduct a study to determine the appropriate staffing ratios and standards necessary to meet the needs of residents in nursing facilities, including determining appropriate levels of staffing based on resident acuity;

(3) recommend, if necessary, a methodology for determining appropriate levels of staffing and standards; and

(4) report its recommendations to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, to the Senate Finance Committee and the House Environmental Matters Committee on or before August 1, 2000.

(d) The Department of Health and Mental Hygiene shall provide staff support for the Task Force.

(e) A member of the Task Force:

(1) may not receive compensation; but

(2) is entitled to reimbursement for expenses under the Standard State Travel Regulations, as provided in the State budget.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 1999. It shall remain effective for a period of 1 year and 10 months and, at the end of April 30, 2001, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this Act shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.”.