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By: **Delegate Taylor**

Introduced and read first time: March 5, 1999

Assigned to: Rules and Executive Nominations

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A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Local Health Services Funding - Amount - Cost of Living Adjustment**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring that State funding of local health services be adjusted  
4 for any cost of living adjustment for State employees, as determined in a certain  
5 manner; and generally relating to local health services funding.

6 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
7 Article - Health - General  
8 Section 2-302  
9 Annotated Code of Maryland  
10 (1994 Replacement Volume and 1998 Supplement)

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

13 **Article - Health - General**

14 2-302.

15 (a) The funding required in the State budget for local health services,  
16 exclusive of special fund and federal appropriations, shall be at least the amount set  
17 forth in subsection (b) of this section.

18 (b) The funding shall be:

19 (1) \$41.0 million for Fiscal Year 1997; and

20 (2) For Fiscal Year 1998 and each subsequent fiscal year, the amount of  
21 funding for Fiscal Year 1997 adjusted for:

22 (i) Inflation, as measured by the Consumer Price Index - all urban  
23 consumers for the second preceding fiscal year, calculated by the U.S. Department of  
24 Commerce; [and]

25 (ii) Population growth, as measured by the growth in the total  
26 population of the State of Maryland for the second preceding fiscal year, according to

1 the most recent statistics available through the Department of Health and Mental  
2 Hygiene; AND

3 (III) ANY COST OF LIVING ADJUSTMENT ENACTED FOR STATE  
4 EMPLOYEES, TO BE DETERMINED BY THE PRODUCT OF:

5 1. THE PERCENTAGE INCREASE IN THE COST OF LIVING  
6 ADJUSTMENT; AND

7 2. THE PERCENTAGE OF THE BUDGET OF THE LOCAL  
8 HEALTH DEPARTMENT DEDICATED TO EMPLOYEE SALARIES IN THE FISCAL YEAR 2  
9 YEARS BEFORE ENACTMENT OF THE COST OF LIVING ADJUSTMENT.

10 (c) (1) For Fiscal Year 1997, no subdivision may receive less State funding  
11 for local health services under this section than that subdivision received in Fiscal  
12 Year 1996.

13 (2) For Fiscal Year 1998 and each subsequent fiscal year, no subdivision  
14 may receive less State funding for local health services under this section than that  
15 subdivision received in Fiscal Year 1997.

16 (3) The Secretary shall, in consultation with local health department  
17 directors, adopt regulations to guide the distribution of the funding required under  
18 this section. The regulations shall give consideration to appropriate measures of  
19 community health need, local funding effort, and other relevant factors.

20 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
21 July 1, 1999.