
By: **Delegates Hecht, Nathan-Pulliam, Pitkin, and A. Jones**
Introduced and read first time: February 11, 2000
Assigned to: Appropriations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Nursing Homes - Increased Hourly Wage for Certified Nursing Assistants**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene to
4 improve working conditions and increase retention of certain nursing home
5 personnel by increasing salary levels; authorizing the Department to adopt
6 certain regulations; and generally relating to staffing for nursing homes.

7 BY adding to
8 Article - Health - General
9 Section 19-1410
10 Annotated Code of Maryland
11 (1996 Replacement Volume and 1999 Supplement)

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

14 **Article - Health - General**

15 19-1410.

16 (A) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL TAKE AFFIRMATIVE ACTION TO IMPROVE
17 WORKING CONDITIONS AND INCREASE RETENTION OF NURSING HOME DIRECT CARE
18 PERSONNEL.

19 (B) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL MODIFY THE DEPARTMENT MEDICAID
20 REIMBURSEMENT METHODOLOGY TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL MEDICAID FUNDS FOR
21 DIRECT REIMBURSEMENT TO NURSING HOMES TO INCREASE THE HOURLY WAGE OF
22 CERTIFIED NURSING ASSISTANTS A MINIMUM OF \$2 PER HOUR.

23 (C) THE SECRETARY MAY ADOPT THE REGULATIONS NECESSARY TO CARRY
24 OUT THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SECTION.

25 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
26 October 1, 2000.