

SENATE BILL 817

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SB 898/00 - B&T

2001 Regular Session
11r2613
CF 11r2612

By: **Senator Stoltzfus**

Introduced and read first time: February 15, 2001

Assigned to: Rules

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **McCready Health Services Foundation - Alice B. Tawes Nursing Home -**
3 **Cigarette Restitution Fund**

4 FOR the purpose of providing for a grant in a certain amount from the Cigarette
5 Restitution Fund to the Board of Directors of the McCready Health Services
6 Foundation for the purpose of creating a new addition to the Alice B. Tawes
7 Nursing Home.

8 **Preamble**

9 WHEREAS, According to the statistics reported in the 1997 publication from
10 the Maryland Office of Rural Health entitled "Rural Health in Maryland: Setting an
11 Agenda in a Time of Change", 14.7% of Somerset County's population is age 65 or
12 older, which is more than 36% greater than the statewide total of only 10.8% of its
13 population who are age 65 or older; and

14 WHEREAS, Somerset County ranked first in the State for deaths from lung
15 cancer from 1990 to 1997; and

16 WHEREAS, The volume of cancer patients at the Edward W. McCready
17 Memorial Hospital in Crisfield in Somerset County more than doubled from 1996 to
18 1999; and

19 WHEREAS, The average death rate in Somerset County due to malignant
20 neoplasms was over 45% higher than the statewide average from 1990 to 1997; and

21 WHEREAS, Somerset County ranked first in the State for deaths from heart
22 disease from 1996 to 1997; and

23 WHEREAS, The volume of heart disease patients at the Edward W. McCready
24 Memorial Hospital more than quadrupled from 1996 to 1999; and

25 WHEREAS, The Diagnostic Related Group (DRG) data from all Maryland
26 hospitals validates Somerset County's disproportionate increase in cancer and heart
27 disease patients; and

1 WHEREAS, For the period from 1998 to 1999, the rates of hospitalization for
2 lung cancer were 2% statewide and 7% for Somerset County; and

3 WHEREAS, For the period from 1998 to 1999, the rates of hospitalization for
4 heart disease were 5% statewide and 16% for Somerset County; and

5 WHEREAS, Of the residents at the Alice B. Tawes Nursing Home, which is a
6 part of the McCready health care facilities in Crisfield, in the year 2000, 86% had
7 heart disease, 17% had Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary disease (COPD), and 3% had
8 cancer; now, therefore,

9 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
10 MARYLAND, That, notwithstanding any other provision of law, from the funds in the
11 Cigarette Restitution Fund established under § 7-317 of the State Finance and
12 Procurement Article, the amount of \$1,800,000 shall be expended in fiscal year 2003
13 as a grant to the Board of Directors of the McCready Health Services Foundation for
14 the purpose of creating a new 12,665 square foot addition to the existing structure of
15 the Alice B. Tawes Nursing Home in Crisfield, Somerset County.

16 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
17 July 1, 2001.