

BY: Finance Committee

AMENDMENTS TO SENATE BILL NO. 676

(First Reading File Bill)

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 1, in line 2, after “Program -” insert “Maryland Pharmacy Access Hotline”; in lines 2 and 3, strike “Prior Authorization - Mental Health Drugs”; and strike beginning with “prohibiting” in line 4 down through “disorders.” in line 11 and substitute “requiring the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene to establish a certain hotline; requiring the Department to distribute to Program recipients certain information about the hotline; requiring the Department to notify certain health care providers about the hotline; requiring the Department to develop a methodology to track the number and type of calls received by the hotline; requiring the Department to report quarterly to the Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee on the number and type of calls received by the hotline; and generally relating to the Maryland Medical Assistance Program and the Maryland Pharmacy Access Hotline.”

BY adding to

Article - Health - General

Section 15-136

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2000 Replacement Volume and 2002 Supplement)”.

On pages 1 and 2, strike beginning with line 12 on page 1 through line 17 on page 2, inclusive.

AMENDMENT NO. 2

On pages 2 through 6, strike beginning with line 21 on page 2 through line 37 on page 6, inclusive.

AMENDMENT NO. 3

On page 6, after line 37, insert:

(Over)

“15-136.

(A) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL USE EXISTING RESOURCES TO ESTABLISH A TOLL FREE MARYLAND PHARMACY ACCESS HOTLINE THAT:

(1) OPERATES DURING REGULAR BUSINESS HOURS; AND

(2) DURING NONBUSINESS HOURS ALLOWS CALLERS TO LEAVE A MESSAGE.

(B) (1) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL DISTRIBUTE TO ALL PROGRAM RECIPIENTS INFORMATION ABOUT THE MARYLAND PHARMACY ACCESS HOTLINE.

(2) THE INFORMATION SHALL STATE CLEARLY IN EASILY READABLE PRINT:

(I) THE TOLL FREE TELEPHONE NUMBER OF THE HOTLINE;  
AND

(II) THAT THE PROGRAM RECIPIENT SHOULD CALL THE TELEPHONE NUMBER IF THE PROGRAM RECIPIENT IS HAVING PROBLEMS GETTING NECESSARY MEDICINES.

(C) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL NOTIFY ALL HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS WHO PARTICIPATE IN THE PROGRAM ABOUT THE MARYLAND PHARMACY ACCESS HOTLINE.

(D) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL:

(1) DEVELOP A METHODOLOGY TO TRACK THE NUMBER AND TYPE OF CALLS RECEIVED BY THE MARYLAND PHARMACY ACCESS HOTLINE; AND

(2) PROVIDE A QUARTERLY REPORT TO THE PHARMACY AND THERAPEUTICS COMMITTEE THAT SUMMARIZES THE NUMBER AND TYPE OF CALLS RECEIVED BY THE MARYLAND PHARMACY ACCESS HOTLINE.”.