

HOUSE BILL 136
EMERGENCY BILL

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P1

2003 Regular Session
3lr0722

By: **Delegate Wood**

Introduced and read first time: January 24, 2003

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Study Panel on the Funding Needs of Regional Trauma Centers - Duties and**
3 **Sunset**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring the panel created by Chapter 33 of the Acts of 2001 to
5 study the potential funding needs of the network of regional trauma centers in
6 the State to monitor certain activity during certain time periods; altering the
7 due date of the final report of the panel; providing for the termination of the
8 panel; making a technical correction; making this Act an emergency measure;
9 and generally relating to the panel to study the potential funding needs of the
10 network of trauma centers in the State.

11 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
12 Chapter 33 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 2001
13 Section 2 and 4

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

16 **Chapter 33 of the Acts of 2001**

17 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That:

18 (a) The General Assembly finds that:

19 1. the State of Maryland has been a national pioneer in the
20 development of emergency medical services, and has developed one of the premier
21 emergency medical services systems in the world through the cooperation of
22 prehospital care providers, including police department personnel and volunteer and
23 career firefighters and emergency medical service providers, hospital administrators,
24 physicians, nurses, government officials, and other emergency personnel;

25 2. a necessary component of Maryland's Emergency Medical Services
26 System is the network of regional trauma centers that participate in the system but
27 do not receive funding under the Emergency Medical System Operations Fund
28 (EMSOF); and

1 3. while other components of the State's Emergency Medical Services
2 System have been studied by the General Assembly in the past, the General Assembly
3 has not studied the potential funding needs of the network of trauma centers
4 participating in the State's Emergency Medical Services System that do not receive
5 funding under EMSOF.

6 (b) It is the intent of the General Assembly to establish a Panel to study the
7 potential funding needs of the network of trauma centers participating in the State's
8 Emergency Medical Services System that do not receive funding under EMSOF.

9 (c) There is a Panel to study the potential funding needs of the network of
10 trauma centers participating in the State's Emergency Medical Services System that
11 do not receive funding under EMSOF.

12 (d) The Panel shall consist of the following 15 members:

13 1. three members of the Senate, appointed by the President of the
14 Senate as follows:

15 (i) one member from the Budget and Taxation Committee;

16 (ii) one member from the Finance Committee; and

17 (iii) one member from the Judicial Proceedings Committee;

18 2. three members of the House of Delegates, appointed by the Speaker
19 of the House as follows:

20 (i) one member from the Appropriations Committee;

21 (ii) one member from the Commerce and Government Matters
22 Committee; and

23 (iii) one member from the Environmental Matters Committee;

24 3. the Secretary of the Department of Budget and Management, or the
25 Secretary's designee;

26 4. the Secretary of the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, or
27 the Secretary's designee;

28 5. the Executive Director of the Maryland Institute of Emergency
29 Medical Services System, or the Executive Director's designee;

30 6. the Chairperson of the Emergency Medical Services Board, or the
31 Chairperson's designee; and

32 7. five members of the general public who do not have an interest in the
33 State's Emergency Medical Services System, appointed as follows:

34 (i) one by the Governor;

1 (ii) two by the President of the Senate; and

2 (iii) two by the Speaker of the House of Delegates.

3 (e) The President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House jointly shall
4 appoint co-chairs from among the Senate and the House members appointed to the
5 Panel.

6 (f) The Panel shall be staffed by the Department of Legislative Services, in
7 consultation with the Maryland Health Services Cost Review Commission and the
8 Maryland Health Care Commission.

9 (g) In conducting its study of the potential funding needs of the network of
10 trauma centers participating in the State's Emergency Medical Services System that
11 do not receive funding under EMSOF, the Panel shall:

12 (i) examine the costs associated with the operation of adult and
13 pediatric trauma centers, each of the level I through level III trauma centers, and any
14 other trauma centers that participate in the State's Emergency Medical Services
15 System;

16 (ii) evaluate the amount, extent, source, and contributing factors of any
17 financial gain or loss attributable to each of the State's designated trauma centers
18 that are not already recovered under the hospital rate setting system under the
19 Health Services Cost Review Commission; and

20 (iii) consider potential funding sources or other approaches to address
21 any funding needs identified by the study.

22 (h) To enable Panel members to understand the frame of reference of the
23 State's Emergency Medical Services System and its related entities, the Panel shall
24 be briefed on any studies of the components of the Emergency Medical Services
25 System conducted in the past 4 years.

26 (i) 1. The Panel shall submit reports in accordance with paragraph 2 of
27 this subsection on its findings and recommendations to the Governor and, in
28 accordance with § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, to the Senate Budget and
29 Taxation Committee, Finance Committee, and Judicial Proceedings Committee, and
30 the House Appropriations Committee, [Commerce and Government Matters]
31 HEALTH AND GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS Committee, and Environmental
32 Matters Committee.

33 2. The Panel shall:

34 (I) submit an interim report on or before January 1, 2002 and a
35 final report on or before [December 1, 2002] FEBRUARY 1, 2003; AND

36 (II) MONITOR ANY LEGISLATIVE OR REGULATORY ACTIVITY
37 DURING AND AFTER THE 2003 SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY REGARDING

1 THE FUNDING NEEDS OF THE NETWORK OF TRAUMA CENTERS PARTICIPATING IN
2 THE STATE'S EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES SYSTEM.

3 SECTION 4. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
4 July 1, 2001. SECTION 2 OF THIS ACT SHALL REMAIN EFFECTIVE FOR A PERIOD OF 2
5 YEARS AND 6 MONTHS AND, AT THE END OF DECEMBER 31, 2003, WITH NO FURTHER
6 ACTION REQUIRED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, SECTION 2 OF THIS ACT SHALL BE
7 ABROGATED AND OF NO FURTHER FORCE AND EFFECT.

8 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act is an emergency
9 measure, is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public health or safety,
10 has been passed by a yea and nay vote supported by three-fifths of all the members
11 elected to each of the two Houses of the General Assembly, and shall take effect from
12 the date it is enacted.