

BY: Health and Government Operations Committee and Appropriations Committee

AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE BILL NO. 1313

(First Reading File Bill)

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 1, strike line 2 in its entirety and substitute “Task Force to Study Physician Reimbursement at Maryland Hospitals”; strike in their entirety lines 3 through 15, inclusive, and substitute:

“FOR the purpose of establishing a Task Force to Study Physician Reimbursement at Maryland Hospitals; specifying the membership of the Task Force; requiring the Task Force to conduct a certain study and make certain recommendations; requiring the Task Force to issue a report in a certain manner on or before a certain date; providing for the termination of this Act; and generally relating to the Task Force to Study Physician Reimbursement at Maryland Hospitals.”;

and strike in their entirety lines 16 through 29, inclusive.

On page 2, strike in their entirety lines 1 through 4, inclusive; and in line 6, strike “the Laws of Maryland read as follows”.

AMENDMENT NO. 2

On pages 2 through 5, strike in their entirety the lines beginning with line 7 on page 2 through line 2 on page 5, inclusive, and substitute:

“(a) There is a Task Force to Study Physician Reimbursement at Maryland Hospitals.

(b) The Task Force consists of the following members:

(1) three members of the Senate of Maryland, appointed by the President of the Senate, including one member from each of the following:

- (i) the Budget and Taxation Committee;
- (ii) the Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee; and
- (iii) the Finance Committee;

(2) three members of the House of Delegates, appointed by the Speaker of the House, including one member from each of the following:

- (i) the Appropriations Committee;
- (ii) the Health and Government Operations Committee; and
- (iii) the Ways and Means Committee;

(3) the Secretary of the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, or the Secretary's designee;

(4) the Secretary of the Department of Budget and Management, or the Secretary's designee;

(5) four additional members appointed by the Governor, including:

- (i) one representative of the Maryland Association of Counties;
- (ii) one representative of the Maryland Hospital Association;
- (iii) one representative of the Maryland Association of County Health
Officers; and
- (iv) one representative of the Medical and Chirurgical Association of
Maryland.

(c) The Governor shall appoint an additional member who shall be the chairman of the Task Force.

(d) In making appointments to the Task Force, the Governor and the presiding officers

shall ensure that the Task Force is representative of the geographic regions of the State.

(e) The Task Force shall study:

(1) the problems associated with physician reimbursement at Maryland hospitals, including differences in the level of Medicaid reimbursement for physician services provided at academic health centers versus the Medicaid reimbursement for physician services provided at community hospitals;

(2) the inadequacy of Medicaid payments to cover all nonphysician and physician expenses;

(3) the trends in declining volume of uncompensated care provided by physicians and the subsequent financial impact on health care institutions; and

(4) any structural deficiencies of the Medicare Waiver and the subsequent financial impact on health care institutions.

(f) The Task Force shall recommend:

(1) one or more specific options for addressing the findings of its study; and

(2) sources of funds for each option recommended.

(g) The Task Force shall report on its findings and recommendations to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, to the General Assembly, on or before January 2, 2005.”.

AMENDMENT NO. 3

On page 5, in line 3, strike “3.” and substitute “2.”; in line 4, strike “Section 2 of this” and substitute “This”; in the same line, strike “5 years” and substitute “1 year”; in line 5, strike “2009” and substitute “2005”; and in line 6, strike “Section 2 of”.