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By: **Howard County Delegation**

Introduced and read first time: February 9, 2004

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

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Committee Report: Favorable

House action: Adopted

Read second time: March 9, 2004

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CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Howard County - Mental Health Advisory Board**  
3 **Ho. Co. 18-04**

4 FOR the purpose of granting the governing body of Howard County the authority to  
5 designate, under certain circumstances, the Howard County Mental Health  
6 Authority as the mental health advisory board for the county; and generally  
7 relating to the mental health advisory board in Howard County.

8 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
9 Article - Health - General  
10 Section 10-308  
11 Annotated Code of Maryland  
12 (2000 Replacement Volume and 2003 Supplement)

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

15 **Article - Health - General**

16 10-308.

17 (a) Except as otherwise provided in subsections (c) and (d) of this section, the  
18 governing body of each county shall establish a mental health advisory committee.

19 (b) The purpose of a mental health advisory committee shall be to serve as  
20 advocate for a comprehensive mental health system for persons of all ages.

1 (c) The governing bodies of two or more counties may establish, by agreement,  
2 an intercounty mental health advisory committee if:

3 (1) The population of one of the counties is too small to warrant the  
4 establishment of a community mental health program for that county; and

5 (2) The Director consents.

6 (d) The governing body of a county may establish a joint mental health and  
7 addictions advisory committee.

8 (E) IN HOWARD COUNTY, IF A QUASI-PUBLIC AUTHORITY IS ESTABLISHED  
9 UNDER SUBTITLE 12 OF THIS TITLE, THE GOVERNING BODY MAY DESIGNATE THE  
10 AUTHORITY AS THE MENTAL HEALTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR THE COUNTY.

11 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
12 July 1, 2004.