

ENROLLED BILL

-- Health and Government Operations/Finance --

Introduced by Delegates Hammen and Pendergrass, Pendergrass, Benson, Boteler, Boutin, Bromwell, Costa, Donoghue, Elliott, Frank, Hubbard, Hurson, Kach, Kullen, Mandel, McDonough, Morhaim, Murray, Nathan-Pulliam, Oaks, Rudolph, V. Turner, and Weldon

Read and Examined by Proofreaders:

Proofreader.

Proofreader.

Sealed with the Great Seal and presented to the Governor, for his approval this _____ day of _____ at _____ o'clock, _____ M.

Speaker.

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Joint Committee on Access to Mental Health Services - Establishment,**
3 **Membership, and Duties**

4 FOR the purpose of establishing the Joint Committee on Access to Mental Health
5 Services; providing for the membership, tenure, and chairs of the Committee;
6 requiring the Department of Legislative Services to provide staff assistance to
7 the Committee; requiring the Committee to monitor access to certain mental
8 health services and certain medically necessary services; requiring the
9 Committee to submit a certain report to the Governor and the General
10 Assembly; and generally relating to the Joint Committee on Access to Mental
11 Health Services.

12 BY adding to
13 Article - State Government

1 Section 2-10A-05
2 Annotated Code of Maryland
3 (2004 Replacement Volume)

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

6 **Article - State Government**

7 2-10A-05.

8 (A) IN THIS SECTION, "COMMITTEE" MEANS THE JOINT COMMITTEE ON
9 ACCESS TO MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES.

10 (B) THERE IS A JOINT COMMITTEE ON ACCESS TO MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES.

11 (C) (1) THE COMMITTEE CONSISTS OF EIGHT MEMBERS.

12 (2) OF THE EIGHT MEMBERS:

13 (I) FOUR SHALL BE SENATORS, APPOINTED BY THE PRESIDENT;
14 AND

15 (II) FOUR SHALL BE DELEGATES, APPOINTED BY THE SPEAKER.

16 (3) OF THE FOUR SENATORS:

17 (I) TWO SHALL BE MEMBERS OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE;

18 (II) ONE SHALL BE A MEMBER OF THE BUDGET AND TAXATION
19 COMMITTEE; AND

20 (III) ONE SHALL BE A MEMBER OF THE EDUCATION, HEALTH, AND
21 ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE.

22 (4) OF THE FOUR DELEGATES:

23 (I) TWO SHALL BE MEMBERS OF THE HEALTH AND GOVERNMENT
24 OPERATIONS COMMITTEE;

25 (II) ONE SHALL BE A MEMBER OF THE APPROPRIATIONS
26 COMMITTEE; AND

27 (III) ONE SHALL BE A MEMBER OF THE ECONOMIC MATTERS
28 COMMITTEE.

29 (D) THE MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE SERVE AT THE PLEASURE OF THE
30 PRESIDING OFFICER WHO APPOINTED THEM.

1 (E) (1) FROM AMONG THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE COMMITTEE, THE
2 PRESIDENT SHALL APPOINT A SENATOR TO SERVE AS THE SENATE CHAIR OF THE
3 COMMITTEE, AND THE SPEAKER SHALL APPOINT A DELEGATE TO SERVE AS THE
4 HOUSE CHAIR OF THE COMMITTEE.

5 (2) THE SENATE CHAIR AND THE HOUSE CHAIR SHALL ALTERNATE
6 ANNUALLY AS PRESIDING CHAIRS AND COCHAIRS OF THE COMMITTEE.

7 (F) THE DEPARTMENT OF LEGISLATIVE SERVICES SHALL PROVIDE STAFF
8 ASSISTANCE TO THE COMMITTEE.

9 (G) THE COMMITTEE SHALL MONITOR ACCESS TO:

10 (1) PUBLIC MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES FOR ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUALS;
11 AND

12 (2) MEDICALLY NECESSARY MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES FOR
13 INDIVIDUALS COVERED BY PRIVATE INSURANCE.

14 (H) THE COMMITTEE SHALL SUBMIT AN ANNUAL REPORT TO THE GOVERNOR
15 AND, IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 2-1246 OF THIS TITLE, TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,
16 REGARDING:

17 (1) SYSTEMIC BARRIERS TO ACCESS TO MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES;
18 AND

19 (2) RECOMMENDATIONS TO MITIGATE THESE BARRIERS.

20 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
21 ~~October~~ June 1, 2005.