

BY: Finance Committee

AMENDMENTS TO SENATE BILL NO. 770
(First Reading File Bill)

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 1, strike in their entirety lines 2 and 3 and substitute "Air Ambulance Services - Study"; strike in their entirety lines 4 through 9, inclusive, and substitute:

"FOR the purpose of requiring the Maryland Health Care Commission, in conjunction with the Health Services Cost Review Commission and the Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services Systems and with the assistance of the Office of the Attorney General, to conduct a certain study and submit a certain report to the Governor and certain committees of the General Assembly on or before a certain date; and generally relating to a study of air ambulance services."

strike in their entirety lines 10 through 19, inclusive; and in line 21, strike "the Laws of Maryland read as follows".

AMENDMENT NO. 2

On pages 1 and 2, strike beginning with "Article" in line 22 on page 1 down through "SECTION" in line 17 on page 2 and substitute:

"(a) The Maryland Health Care Commission, in conjunction with the Health Services Cost Review Commission and the Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services Systems, and with the assistance of the Office of the Attorney General, shall study:

(1) the financial aspects of inter-hospital patient transfer by air ambulance services operating in Maryland, including:

(i) the types and costs of operations;

(Over)

(ii) charges for services provided, including billing practices; and

(iii) reimbursement by payors;

(2) state and federal laws applicable to the operation of air ambulance services in the State; and

(3) mechanisms available to the State to regulate financial aspects of air ambulance services and to ensure cost-effective use of air ambulance services for inter-hospital patient transfer.

(b) On or before December 1, 2006, the Maryland Health Care Commission, the Health Services Cost Review Commission, and the Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services Systems shall submit a report on the study and any findings and recommendations to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, to the Senate Finance Committee and the House Health and Government Operations Committee”.

On page 2, in line 19, strike “October” and substitute “July”.