

BY: Health and Government Operations Committee and Appropriations Committee

AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE BILL NO. 1295
(First Reading File Bill)

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 1, strike in their entirety lines 2 and 3 and substitute “Health Occupations - Cultural Competency Workgroup”; and strike beginning with “requiring” in line 4 down through “professionals” in line 18 and substitute “requiring the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene to convene a certain workgroup; requiring each health occupations board within the Department to develop certain recommendations relating to cultural competency; requiring the workgroup to make certain recommendations relating to cultural competency and to review certain curriculum modules; providing for the staffing of the workgroup; requiring the workgroup to make a certain report to certain committees of the General Assembly on or before a certain date; providing for the termination of this Act; and generally relating to the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene and a workgroup on cultural competency”.

AMENDMENT NO. 2

On pages 1 and 2, strike in their entirety the lines beginning with line 19 on page 1 through line 5 on page 2, inclusive, and substitute:

“Preamble

WHEREAS, In 2001, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services launched the development of the Cultural Competency Curriculum Modules to equip physicians with the cultural and linguistic competencies required to improve the quality of care for minority, immigrant, and ethnically diverse communities; and

WHEREAS, In December 2004, the interactive online curriculum of the Cultural Competency Curriculum Module was made available at no cost to the public; and

WHEREAS, the Cultural Competency Curriculum Modules are accredited for continuing

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medical education credits for physicians and continuing education units for nurses and pharmacists; now, therefore.”.

On pages 2 through 5, strike in their entirety the lines beginning with line 6 on page 2 through line 23 on page 5, inclusive, and substitute:

“SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
That:

(a) The Department of Health and Mental Hygiene shall convene a workgroup consisting of representatives from each health occupations board and the Office of Minority Health and Health Disparities.

(b) Each health occupations board shall develop recommendations for requiring individuals licensed by the board to receive instruction in cultural competency as part of an individual’s licensure or renewal of a license.

(c) The recommendations shall include:

(1) the number of hours of instruction in cultural competency that should be required according to the licensee subject to the requirement;

(2) a time frame for implementing the requirement according to the licensee subject to the requirement; and

(3) whether certain boards or licensees should not be required to receive instruction in cultural competency, including a justification for the exemption.

(d) (1) The workgroup shall make recommendations regarding the required courses in cultural competency including the types of cultural competency courses to be approved.

(2) The workgroup shall review Cultural Competency Curriculum Modules (CCCMs) developed by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services’ Office of Minority Health and recommend whether CCCMs should be required for certain health care providers.

(e) The health occupations boards shall provide staff for the workgroup.

(f) The workgroup shall report to the Senate Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee, Senate Budget and Taxation Committee, House Appropriations Committee, and the House Health and Government Operations Committee, on or before January 1, 2007, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, on the recommendations of the workgroup regarding cultural competency courses and the recommendations of the health occupations boards.”.

On page 5, in line 25, after “2006.” insert “It shall remain effective for a period of 1 year and, at the end of June 30, 2007, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this Act shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.”.