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By: **Delegate Love (Chairman, Anne Arundel County Delegation)**

Introduced and read first time: January 30, 2006

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

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Committee Report: Favorable

House action: Adopted

Read second time: February 22, 2006

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CHAPTER\_\_\_\_\_

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Anne Arundel County - Mental Health Advisory Committee**

3 FOR the purpose of authorizing the governing body in Anne Arundel County to  
4 designate Anne Arundel County Mental Health Agency, Inc. as the mental  
5 health advisory committee for Anne Arundel County; providing for an exception  
6 to the membership requirements for a mental health advisory committee in  
7 Anne Arundel County; and generally relating to mental health advisory  
8 committees.

9 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
10 Article - Health - General  
11 Section 10-308 and 10-309(a)  
12 Annotated Code of Maryland  
13 (2005 Replacement Volume and 2005 Supplement)

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

16 **Article - Health - General**

17 10-308.

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

20 (b) The purpose of a mental health advisory committee shall be to serve as  
21 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 mental health advisory committee 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 under  
9 Subtitle 12 of this title, the governing body may designate the authority as the mental  
10 health advisory committee for the county.

11 (f) In Baltimore City, the governing body may designate Baltimore Mental  
12 Health Systems, Inc., the core service agency for Baltimore City under Subtitle 12 of  
13 this title, as the mental health advisory committee for Baltimore City.

14 (G) IN ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY, THE GOVERNING BODY MAY DESIGNATE  
15 ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY MENTAL HEALTH AGENCY, INC., THE CORE SERVICE  
16 AGENCY FOR ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY UNDER SUBTITLE 12 OF THIS TITLE, AS THE  
17 MENTAL HEALTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY.

18 10-309.

19 (a) (1) The mental health advisory committee of each county shall consist of:

20 (i) As nonvoting ex officio members, the following individuals or  
21 their designees:

22 1. The health officer for the county;

23 2. A representative of a State inpatient facility that serves  
24 that county, appointed as provided in paragraph (2) of this subsection;

25 3. The county mental health director;

26 4. The director of the core service agency, if any; and

27 5. In jurisdictions with designated State inpatient beds  
28 located in local general hospitals, a representative from that facility; and

29 (ii) As voting members, appointed by the governing body of the  
30 county and representative of the county's major socio-economic and ethnic groups:

31 1. At least 5, but not more than 7, representatives selected  
32 from among the following groups or agencies:

33 A. The governing body;

- 1 B. The county department of education;
- 2 C. The local department of social services;
- 3 D. The practicing physicians;
- 4 E. Mental health professionals who are not physicians;
- 5 F. The clergy;
- 6 G. The legal profession;
- 7 H. A local law enforcement agency;
- 8 I. A local general hospital that contains an inpatient  
9 psychiatric unit;
- 10 J. The Department of Aging;
- 11 K. The Department of Juvenile Services;
- 12 L. The local alcohol and drug abuse agency; and
- 13 M. A local community rehabilitation or housing program; and
- 14 2. At least 5 individuals selected from among the following  
15 groups or organizations and appointed as provided in paragraph (3) of this subsection:
- 16 A. At least 2 individuals who are currently receiving or who  
17 have in the past received mental health services;
- 18 B. Parents or other relatives of adults with mental disorders;
- 19 C. Parents or other relatives of children or adolescents with  
20 emotional, behavioral, or mental disorders the onset of which occurred during  
21 childhood or adolescence;
- 22 D. The local mental health association, if any; and
- 23 E. A member of the general public.

24 (2) If more than one State inpatient facility serves a county, a  
25 representative from at least 1 of the facilities shall be appointed by the Director.

26 (3) At least one-half of the voting members shall be appointed from  
27 among the individuals listed in paragraph (1)(ii)2 A through C of this subsection.

28 (4) Notwithstanding paragraphs (1) through (3) of this subsection, if the  
29 governing body of Baltimore City OR ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY designates [the] A core  
30 service agency as the mental health advisory committee, the mental health advisory  
31 committee shall consist of the governing body of the core service agency.

1 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
2 October 1, 2006.