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By: **Delegate Rudolph**

Introduced and read first time: February 2, 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 **Health Services Cost Review Commission - Report on Hospital Charges**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring the Health Services Cost Review Commission, in  
4 consultation with the Maryland Health Care Commission, to publish certain  
5 information on hospital charges; and generally relating to hospital charges.

6 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
7 Article - Health - General  
8 Section 19-207(b)  
9 Annotated Code of Maryland  
10 (2005 Replacement Volume and 2005 Supplement)

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

13 **Article - Health - General**

14 19-207.

15 (b) In addition to the duties set forth elsewhere in this subtitle, the  
16 Commission shall:

17 (1) Adopt rules and regulations that relate to its meetings, minutes, and  
18 transactions;

19 (2) Keep minutes of each meeting;

1           (3)     Prepare annually a budget proposal that includes the estimated  
2 income of the Commission and proposed expenses for its administration and  
3 operation;

4           (4)     Within a reasonable time after the end of each facility's fiscal year or  
5 more often as the Commission determines, prepare from the information filed with  
6 the Commission any summary, compilation, or other supplementary report that will  
7 advance the purposes of this subtitle;

8           (5)     Periodically participate in or do analyses and studies that relate to:

9                   (i)     Health care costs;

10                   (ii)    The financial status of any facility; or

11                   (iii)   Any other appropriate matter;

12           (6)     On or before October 1 of each year, submit to the Governor, to the  
13 Secretary, and, subject to § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, to the General  
14 Assembly an annual report on the operations and activities of the Commission during  
15 the preceding fiscal year, including:

16                   (i)     A copy of each summary, compilation, and supplementary report  
17 required by this subtitle; and

18                   (ii)    Any other fact, suggestion, or policy recommendation that the  
19 Commission considers necessary; [and]

20           (7)     Oversee and administer the Maryland Trauma Physician Services  
21 Fund in conjunction with the Maryland Health Care Commission; AND

22           (8)     IN CONSULTATION WITH THE MARYLAND HEALTH CARE  
23 COMMISSION, ANNUALLY PUBLISH EACH ACUTE CARE HOSPITAL'S  
24 SEVERITY-ADJUSTED AVERAGE CHARGE PER CASE FOR THE 15 MOST COMMON  
25 INPATIENT DIAGNOSIS-RELATED GROUPS.

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