

(PRE-FILED)

By: **Senator Hollinger**
 Requested: September 29, 2005
 Introduced and read first time: January 11, 2006
 Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments
 Senate action: Adopted
 Read second time: February 7, 2006

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **State of Emergency - Health Care Practitioners - Credentialing Programs**
 3 **for Emergency Preparedness Licensing, Certifying, and Credentialing**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring the Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene to
 5 coordinate with certain health occupations boards to develop a process to
 6 license, certify, or credential certain health care practitioners under certain
 7 circumstances; including certain emergency preparedness credentialing
 8 programs a certain process for licensing, certifying, and credentialing certain
 9 health care practitioners among the training programs that the Governor is
 10 authorized to institute in the event of a state of emergency; and generally
 11 relating to emergency preparedness credentialing programs training programs
 12 for health care practitioners during a state of emergency.

13 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
 14 Article - Health - General
 15 Section 18-903(c)
 16 Annotated Code of Maryland
 17 (2005 Replacement Volume and 2005 Supplement)

18 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
 19 Article - Public Safety
 20 Section 14-101(c) and (f) and 14-107(a)(1)
 21 Annotated Code of Maryland
 22 (2003 Volume and 2005 Supplement)

23 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

1 Article - Public Safety
 2 Section 14-106(b)(3)
 3 Annotated Code of Maryland
 4 (2003 Volume and 2005 Supplement)

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

7 **Article - Health - General**

8 18-903.

9 (c) The Secretary shall COORDINATE WITH THE HEALTH OCCUPATIONS
 10 BOARDS TO develop a process to license, certify, or credential BOTH LICENSED health
 11 care practitioners AND OUT-OF-STATE HEALTH CARE PRACTITIONERS who may be
 12 needed to respond to a catastrophic health emergency.

13 **Article - Public Safety**

14 14-101.

15 (c) "Emergency" means the threat or occurrence of:

16 (1) a hurricane, tornado, storm, flood, high water, wind-driven water,
 17 tidal wave, earthquake, landslide, mudslide, snowstorm, drought, fire, explosion, and
 18 any other disaster in any part of the State that requires State assistance to
 19 supplement local efforts in order to save lives and protect public health and safety; or

20 (2) an enemy attack, act of terrorism, or public health catastrophe.

21 (f) "MEMA" means the Maryland Emergency Management Agency.

22 14-106.

23 (b) In performing duties under this subtitle, the Governor:

24 (3) may authorize the procurement of supplies and equipment, [and] the
 25 institution of training programs INCLUDING ~~EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS~~
 26 ~~CREDENTIALING PROGRAMS FOR HEALTH CARE PRACTITIONERS LICENSED IN THE~~
 27 ~~STATE AND IN OTHER STATES, THE PROCESS FOR LICENSING, CERTIFYING, OR~~
 28 ~~CREDENTIALING HEALTH CARE PRACTITIONERS DEVELOPED UNDER § 18-903(C) OF~~
 29 ~~THE HEALTH - GENERAL ARTICLE,~~ [and] public information programs, and other
 30 steps to prepare for an emergency;

31 14-107.

32 (a) (1) If the Governor finds that an emergency has developed or is
 33 impending due to any cause, the Governor shall declare a state of emergency by
 34 executive order or proclamation.

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