

HOUSE BILL 682

J1

7lr1954

By: **Delegate Morhaim**

Introduced and read first time: February 8, 2007

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Health Care Decisions Act – Emergency Medical Services “Do Not**
3 **Resuscitate Orders” – Health Care Providers**

4 FOR the purpose of authorizing certain health care providers to comply with an
5 emergency medical services “do not resuscitate order” under certain
6 circumstances; requiring certain health care providers to comply with an
7 emergency medical services “do not resuscitate order” under certain
8 circumstances; and generally relating to emergency medical services “do not
9 resuscitate orders”.

10 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
11 Article – Health – General
12 Section 5–608(a)
13 Annotated Code of Maryland
14 (2005 Replacement Volume and 2006 Supplement)

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

17 **Article – Health – General**

18 5–608.

19 (a) (1) Certified or licensed emergency medical services personnel shall be
20 directed by protocol to follow emergency medical services “do not resuscitate orders”
21 pertaining to adult patients in the outpatient setting in accordance with protocols

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 established by the Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services Systems in
2 conjunctions with the State Board of Physicians.

3 (2) Emergency medical services “do not resuscitate orders” may not
4 authorize the withholding of medical interventions, or therapies deemed necessary to
5 provide comfort care or to alleviate pain.

6 (3) A health care provider, other than certified or licensed emergency
7 medical services personnel, **WHO SEES, IN A VALID FORM, AN EMERGENCY**
8 **MEDICAL SERVICES “DO NOT RESUSCITATE ORDER” DESCRIBED IN PARAGRAPH**
9 **(1) OF THIS SUBSECTION THAT IS NOT SUPERSEDED BY A SUBSEQUENT**
10 **PHYSICIAN’S ORDER:**

11 (I) [may] **MAY, BEFORE A PATIENT’S CARDIAC OR**
12 **RESPIRATORY ARREST,** provide, withhold, or withdraw treatment in accordance with
13 [an emergency medical services “do not resuscitate order” described in paragraph (1)
14 of this subsection if a health care provider sees either the order or a valid, legible, and
15 patient identifying emergency medical services “do not resuscitate order” in bracelet
16 form] **THE EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES “DO NOT RESUSCITATE ORDER”;**
17 **AND**

18 (II) **SHALL, AFTER A PATIENT’S CARDIAC OR RESPIRATORY**
19 **ARREST, WITHHOLD OR WITHDRAW TREATMENT IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE**
20 **EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES “DO NOT RESUSCITATE ORDER”.**

21 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
22 October 1, 2007.