

# HOUSE BILL 797

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By: **Delegate Frush**

Introduced and read first time: February 9, 2007

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Study of Health Care Services for Children with Life-Threatening Medical**  
3 **Conditions**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring the State Advisory Council on Quality Care at the End  
5 of Life and the Maryland Health Care Commission to jointly undertake a  
6 certain study relating to services for children with life-threatening medical  
7 conditions; requiring the Council and the Commission to report the effect of  
8 certain programs that provide assistance for children with life-threatening  
9 medical conditions, analyze the impact of certain programs in other states,  
10 consult with certain persons, and make certain recommendations; requiring the  
11 Council and the Commission to report to the Governor and the General  
12 Assembly on or before a certain date; and generally relating to the study of  
13 health care services for children with life-threatening medical conditions.

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

16 (a) The State Advisory Council on Quality Care at the End of Life and the  
17 Maryland Health Care Commission shall jointly study the current services and  
18 potential care delivery alternatives available for the care of children with  
19 life-threatening medical conditions.

20 (b) As part of the study, the Council and the Commission shall:

21 (1) Describe the extent to which, under the Maryland Medical  
22 Assistance Program and privately funded health insurance or similar benefits,

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 children who are diagnosed with a life-threatening medical condition are currently  
2 able to receive appropriate and timely palliative care services related to the symptoms  
3 of the condition, the side effects from treatment, and the psychological, social, and  
4 spiritual problems resulting from the condition or treatment;

5           (2) Analyze the impact in states that adopted the Children's Hospice  
6 International Program for All-Inclusive Care for Children and their Families ("CHI  
7 PACC") or other palliative care demonstration projects, including whether a CHI  
8 PACC program results in the reallocation of resources for more effective care within  
9 the parameters of overall budgetary neutrality;

10           (3) Consult with the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, the  
11 Maryland Insurance Administration, the Hospice Network of Maryland, the Pediatric  
12 Palliative Care Coalition of Maryland, organizations that represent health care  
13 providers, and any other person that the Council and the Commission deem  
14 appropriate in connection with the study; and

15           (4) Present any recommendations that the Council or the Commission  
16 deems appropriate and feasible, including a potential CHI PACC or other  
17 demonstration project in this State, to advance the goal of improving health care  
18 services for children with life-threatening medical conditions.

19           (c) On or before December 1, 2007, the Council and the Commission shall  
20 report to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State Government  
21 Article, the General Assembly on the results of the study.

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