

HOUSE BILL 168

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8lr1610

By: **Delegate Nathan-Pulliam**

Introduced and read first time: January 21, 2008

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Hospitals and Ambulatory Surgical Facilities – Comparable Evaluation**
3 **System – Outpatient Surgeries**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring a certain comparable evaluation system established by
5 the Maryland Health Care Commission to include outpatient surgery
6 information from hospitals and ambulatory surgical facilities; making a certain
7 stylistic change; and generally relating to the inclusion of outpatient surgery
8 information from hospitals and ambulatory surgical facilities in a certain
9 comparable evaluation system.

10 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
11 Article – Health – General
12 Section 19–134(e)
13 Annotated Code of Maryland
14 (2005 Replacement Volume and 2007 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 19–134.

19 (e) (1) The Commission may:

20 (i) On or before July 1, 2001, develop and implement a system
21 to comparatively evaluate the quality of care outcomes and performance
22 measurements of hospitals and ambulatory surgical facilities on an objective basis;
23 and

24 (ii) Annually publish the summary findings of the evaluation.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (2) (i) The purpose of a comparable performance measurement
2 system established under this subsection is to improve the quality of care provided by
3 hospitals and ambulatory surgical facilities by establishing a common set of
4 performance measurements and disseminating the findings of the performance
5 measurements to hospitals, ambulatory surgical facilities, consumers, and interested
6 parties.

7 (ii) In developing the performance measurement system, the
8 Commission shall consider the geographic location, urban or rural orientation, and
9 teaching or nonteaching status of the hospital and the ambulatory surgical facilities,
10 and the health status of the population served.

11 (3) (i) The system, where appropriate, shall solicit performance
12 information from consumers.

13 (ii) On [on] **OR** before October 1, 2007, to the extent feasible,
14 the system shall incorporate racial and ethnic variations.

15 (4) (i) The Commission may adopt regulations to establish the
16 system of evaluation provided under this subsection.

17 (ii) Before adopting regulations to implement an evaluation
18 system under this subsection, the Commission shall:

19 1. Consider the performance measurements of
20 appropriate accreditation organizations, State licensure regulations, Medicare
21 certification regulations, the quality indicator project of the Association of Maryland
22 Hospitals and Health Systems, and any other relevant performance measurements;

23 2. Evaluate the desirability and feasibility of developing
24 a consumer clearinghouse on health care information using existing available data;
25 and

26 3. On or before January 1, 2001, report to the General
27 Assembly, subject to § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, on any performance
28 evaluation developed under this subsection.

29 (5) The Commission may contract with a private entity to implement
30 the system required under this subsection provided that the entity is not a hospital or
31 an ambulatory surgical facility.

32 (6) (i) The comparable evaluation system established under this
33 subsection shall include health care-associated infection information from hospitals.

34 (ii) The comparable evaluation system shall adhere, to the
35 extent possible, to the current recommendations of the federal Centers for Disease

1 Control and Prevention (CDC) and the CDC Healthcare Infection Control Practices
2 Advisory Committee regarding public reporting of health care–associated infections.

3 **(7) THE COMPARABLE EVALUATION SYSTEM ESTABLISHED**
4 **UNDER THIS SUBSECTION SHALL INCLUDE INFORMATION FROM HOSPITALS AND**
5 **AMBULATORY SURGICAL FACILITIES ON THE RATES OF COMPLICATIONS AND**
6 **READMISSIONS FOLLOWING OUTPATIENT SURGERIES.**

7 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
8 October 1, 2008.