

SENATE BILL 682

J1

8lr2637
CF HB 1452

By: **Senator Middleton**

Introduced and read first time: February 1, 2008

Assigned to: Finance

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

Senate action: Adopted

Read second time: March 19, 2008

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Medical Assistance Program – Long–Term Care Eligibility – Consolidation**
3 **Plan**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene and the
5 Department of Human Resources, in consultation with certain groups, to
6 develop a certain plan; requiring the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene
7 and the Department of Human Resources to submit a certain report to the
8 Governor and the General Assembly on or before a certain date; and generally
9 relating to the Medical Assistance Program and eligibility for long–term care
10 services.

11 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
12 MARYLAND, That:

13 (a) (1) The Department of Health and Mental Hygiene and the
14 Department of Human Resources, in consultation with LifeSpan Network and the
15 Health Facilities Association of Maryland, shall develop a plan to integrate the
16 functions necessary for the determination of Medical Assistance Program eligibility for
17 long–term care services.

18 (2) The plan conducted under paragraph (1) of this subsection shall:

19 (i) transfer the workforce employed by the Department of
20 Human Resources, including the local departments of social services, who determine
21 long–term care Medical Assistance Program eligibility to the Department of Health
22 and Mental Hygiene;

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike-out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



1 (ii) create uniform procedures, guidelines, and forms to be
 2 utilized by all employees in the determination of long-term care Medical Assistance
 3 Program eligibility; ~~and~~

4 (iii) streamline regulations, policies, and procedures related to
 5 the application for long-term care Medical Assistance Program services, including
 6 considering whether the face-to-face interview required under § 10.09.24.04 of the
 7 Code of Maryland Regulations should be eliminated for long-term care eligibility
 8 determinations; and

9 (iv) consider creating a financial and technical resource center
 10 for assisting caseworkers in determining long-term care eligibility.

11 (b) On or before ~~November~~ October 1, 2008, the Department of Health and
 12 Mental Hygiene and the Department of Human Resources shall submit a report on the
 13 implementation of the plan required under subsection (a) of this section to the
 14 Governor and, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, the
 15 General Assembly.

16 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
 17 July 1, 2008.

Approved:

Governor.

President of the Senate.

Speaker of the House of Delegates.