CHAPTER 675

(House Bill 942)

AN ACT concerning

Health Disparities - Institutions of Higher Education - Report

FOR the purpose of requiring colleges and universities <u>universities</u>, colleges, and <u>programs</u> of medicine, nursing, pharmacy, and dentistry in the State to submit a certain report to certain committees of the General Assembly and to the Office of Minority Health and Health Disparities on or before a certain date; and generally relating to universities and colleges <u>universities</u>, colleges, and <u>programs</u> of medicine, nursing, pharmacy, and dentistry and a certain report.

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,

Article – Health – General Section 20–1001(a) and (d) and 20–1004(15) Annotated Code of Maryland (2005 Replacement Volume and 2007 Supplement)

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

Article - Health - General

20-1001.

- (a) In this subtitle the following words have the meanings indicated.
- (d) "Office" means the Maryland Office of Minority Health and Health Disparities established under § 20–1002 of this subtitle.

20-1004.

The Office shall:

(15) Work collaboratively with universities and colleges of medicine, nursing, pharmacy, and dentistry in this State and other health care professional training programs to develop courses with cultural competency, sensitivity, and health literacy, that are designed to address the problem of racial and ethnic disparities in health care access, utilization, treatment decisions, quality, and outcomes;

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, on or before December 1, 2008, universities and colleges universities, colleges, and higher education programs of

medicine, nursing, pharmacy, and dentistry in the State, shall report to the Senate Finance Committee, the Senate Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee, the House Health and Government Operations Committee, and the Office of Minority Health and Health Disparities, in accordance with § 2–1246 of the State Government Article, on the courses that have been developed independently by the colleges and universities that comply with universities, colleges, and higher education programs or through a collaboration with the Office of Minority Health and Health Disparities under § 20–1004(15) of the Health – General Article.

SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2008.

Approved by the Governor, May 22, 2008.