

# HOUSE BILL 349

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9lr1662

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By: **Washington County Delegation**

Introduced and read first time: January 30, 2009

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Washington County – Mental Health Advisory Committee**

3 FOR the purpose of authorizing the governing body of Washington County to  
4 designate Washington County Mental Health Authority, Inc., as the mental  
5 health advisory committee for Washington County; and generally relating to  
6 mental health advisory committees.

7 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
8 Article – Health – General  
9 Section 10–308  
10 Annotated Code of Maryland  
11 (2005 Replacement Volume and 2008 Supplement)

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

14 **Article – Health – General**

15 10–308.

16 (a) Except as otherwise provided in subsections (c) and (d) of this section, the  
17 governing body of each county shall establish a mental health advisory committee.

18 (b) The purpose of a mental health advisory committee shall be to serve as  
19 advocate for a comprehensive mental health system for persons of all ages.

20 (c) The governing bodies of two or more counties may establish, by  
21 agreement, an intercounty mental health advisory committee if:

22 (1) The population of one of the counties is too small to warrant the  
23 establishment of a mental health advisory committee for that county; and

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1           (2)    The Director consents.

2           (d)    The governing body of a county may establish a joint mental health and  
3   addictions advisory committee.

4           (e)    In Howard County, if a quasi-public authority is established under  
5   Subtitle 12 of this title, the governing body may designate the authority as the mental  
6   health advisory committee for the county.

7           (f)    In Baltimore City, the governing body may designate Baltimore Mental  
8   Health Systems, Inc., the core service agency for Baltimore City under Subtitle 12 of  
9   this title, as the mental health advisory committee for Baltimore City.

10          (g)    In Anne Arundel County, the governing body may designate Anne  
11   Arundel County Mental Health Agency, Inc., the core service agency for Anne Arundel  
12   County under Subtitle 12 of this title, as the mental health advisory committee for  
13   Anne Arundel County.

14          **(H)    IN WASHINGTON COUNTY, THE GOVERNING BODY MAY DESIGNATE**  
15   **WASHINGTON COUNTY MENTAL HEALTH AUTHORITY, INC., THE CORE SERVICE**  
16   **AGENCY FOR WASHINGTON COUNTY UNDER SUBTITLE 12 OF THIS TITLE, AS**  
17   **THE MENTAL HEALTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR WASHINGTON COUNTY.**

18          SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
19   October 1, 2009.