

SENATE BILL 464

J3

9lr2351
CF 9lr2462

By: **Senators Edwards, Colburn, Mooney, Munson, and Stoltzfus**

Introduced and read first time: February 4, 2009

Assigned to: Finance

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Maryland Trauma Physician Services Fund – Rural Trauma Centers**

3 FOR the purpose of altering the definition of trauma center to include Peninsula
4 Regional Medical Center, the Western Maryland Health System, and
5 Washington County Hospital; and generally relating to the Maryland Trauma
6 Physician Services Fund.

7 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
8 Article – Health – General
9 Section 19–130(a)
10 Annotated Code of Maryland
11 (2005 Replacement Volume and 2008 Supplement)

12 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
13 Article – Health – General
14 Section 19–130(b)
15 Annotated Code of Maryland
16 (2005 Replacement Volume and 2008 Supplement)

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

19 **Article – Health – General**

20 19–130.

21 (a) (1) In this section the following words have the meanings indicated.

22 (2) “Fund” means the Maryland Trauma Physician Services Fund.

23 (3) “Maryland Trauma Specialty Referral Centers” means:

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



- 1 (i) The Johns Hopkins Health System Burn Program;
- 2 (ii) The Eye Trauma Center at the Wilmer Eye Institute at The
3 Johns Hopkins Hospital; and
- 4 (iii) The Curtis National Hand Center at Union Memorial
5 Hospital.

6 (4) “Rehabilitation hospital” means a facility classified as a special
7 rehabilitation hospital as described in § 19–307 of this title that is affiliated with a
8 trauma center by common ownership.

9 (5) (i) “Trauma center” means a facility designated by the
10 Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services Systems as:

- 11 1. The State primary adult resource center;
- 12 2. A Level I trauma center;
- 13 3. A Level II trauma center;
- 14 4. A Level III trauma center;
- 15 5. A pediatric trauma center; or
- 16 6. The Maryland Trauma Specialty Referral Centers.

17 (ii) “Trauma center” includes [an]:

- 18 1. **AN out-of-state pediatric trauma center that has**
19 **entered into an agreement with the Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical**
20 **Services Systems;**
- 21 2. **PENINSULA REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER;**
- 22 3. **THE WESTERN MARYLAND HEALTH SYSTEM; AND**
- 23 4. **WASHINGTON COUNTY HOSPITAL.**

24 (6) “Trauma physician” means a physician who provides care in a
25 trauma center or in a rehabilitation hospital to trauma patients on the State trauma
26 registry as defined by the Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services
27 Systems.

28 (7) “Uncompensated care” means care provided by a trauma physician
29 to a trauma patient on the State trauma registry who:

1 (i) Has no health insurance, including Medicare Part B
2 coverage;

3 (ii) Is not eligible for medical assistance coverage; and

4 (iii) Has not paid the trauma physician for care provided by the
5 trauma physician, after documented attempts by the trauma physician to collect
6 payment.

7 (b) (1) There is a Maryland Trauma Physician Services Fund.

8 (2) The purpose of the Fund is to subsidize the documented costs:

9 (i) Of uncompensated care incurred by a trauma physician in
10 providing trauma care to a trauma patient on the State trauma registry;

11 (ii) Of undercompensated care incurred by a trauma physician
12 in providing trauma care to an enrollee of the Maryland Medical Assistance Program
13 who is a trauma patient on the State trauma registry;

14 (iii) Incurred by a trauma center to maintain trauma physicians
15 on-call as required by the Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services
16 Systems; and

17 (iv) Incurred by the Commission and the Health Services Cost
18 Review Commission to administer the Fund and audit reimbursement requests to
19 assure appropriate payments are made from the Fund.

20 (3) The Commission and the Health Services Cost Review Commission
21 shall administer the Fund.

22 (4) The Fund is a special, nonlapsing fund that is not subject to §
23 7-302 of the State Finance and Procurement Article.

24 (5) Interest on and other income from the Fund shall be separately
25 accounted for and credited to the Fund, and are not subject to § 6-226(a) of the State
26 Finance and Procurement Article.

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