

## **Chapter 549**

**(Senate Bill 790)**

AN ACT concerning

### **Department of Health and Mental Hygiene – Advance Directive Registry – Fee and Date of Operation**

FOR the purpose of requiring the Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene to set a certain fee, by regulation, for certain services of the Advance Directive Registry; requiring the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene to take the steps necessary to make the Registry operational by a certain date; and generally relating to the Advance Directive Registry in the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene.

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,  
Article – Health – General  
Section 5–620  
Annotated Code of Maryland  
(2009 Replacement Volume and 2012 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
Article – Health – General  
Section 5–622  
Annotated Code of Maryland  
(2009 Replacement Volume and 2012 Supplement)

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

#### **Article – Health – General**

5–620.

There is an Advance Directive Registry in the Department.

5–622.

(a) (1) The Secretary [may] **SHALL**, by regulation, set a fee for any service of the Registry, including an initial fee to utilize the services of the Registry and renewal fees.

(2) The fees set by the Secretary may not, in the aggregate, exceed the Department's costs to establish and operate the Registry.

(b) (1) The Department may, by contract, obtain from any person services related to the establishment and operation of the Registry.

(2) Notwithstanding any contract in accordance with paragraph (1) of this subsection, the Department is responsible for the Registry.

(c) The Department shall carry out appropriate educational and outreach efforts to increase public awareness of the Registry.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene shall take all the steps necessary to make the Advance Directive Registry established under Title 5, Subtitle 6, Part II of the Health – General Article operational on or before October 1, 2014.

SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2013.

**Approved by the Governor, May 16, 2013.**