Chapter 626

(House Bill 671)

AN ACT concerning

Howard County - Practice of Massage - Regulation

Ho. Co. 13–16

FOR the purpose of authorizing the governing body of Howard County<u>, after consultation</u> with the State Board of Chiropractic and Massage Therapy Examiners, to adopt ordinances or regulations relating to massage establishments and the practices of certain individuals verification, inspection, and display of certain licenses issued under certain provisions of law; requiring the governing body of Howard County to provide that the Howard County Health Officer and the Howard County Police Department have certain authority to carry out certain provisions of ordinances or regulations; and generally relating to the practice of massage in Howard County.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article – Health Occupations Section 3–5A–15 Annotated Code of Maryland (2014 Replacement Volume and 2015 Supplement)

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

Article – Health Occupations

3-5A-15.

(a) (1) In Charles County and Washington County, the County Commissioners may adopt ordinances or regulations relating to massage establishments and the practices of massage therapists, massage practitioners, and any other individuals who provide massage for compensation.

(2) IN HOWARD COUNTY, <u>AFTER CONSULTATION WITH THE BOARD</u>, THE GOVERNING BODY MAY ADOPT ORDINANCES OR REGULATIONS RELATING TO <u>MASSAGE ESTABLISHMENTS AND THE PRACTICES OF MASSAGE THERAPISTS</u>, <u>MASSAGE PRACTITIONERS, AND ANY OTHER-INDIVIDUALS WHO PROVIDE MASSAGE</u> <u>FOR COMPENSATION</u> <u>VERIFICATION, INSPECTION, AND DISPLAY OF LICENSES</u> <u>ISSUED UNDER THIS SUBTITLE</u>.

(b) (1) The Charles County Commissioners shall provide that the Director of the Charles County Health Department and the Office of the Sheriff for Charles County

have the authority to carry out the provisions of the ordinances or regulations adopted under subsection (a) of this section.

(2) The Washington County Commissioners shall provide that the Washington County Health Officer and the Office of the Sheriff for Washington County have the authority to carry out the provisions of the ordinances or regulations adopted under subsection (a) of this section.

(3) THE GOVERNING BODY OF HOWARD COUNTY SHALL PROVIDE THAT THE HOWARD COUNTY HEALTH OFFICER AND THE HOWARD COUNTY POLICE DEPARTMENT HAVE THE AUTHORITY TO CARRY OUT THE PROVISIONS OF THE ORDINANCES OR REGULATIONS ADOPTED UNDER SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2016.

Approved by the Governor, May 19, 2016.