

# HOUSE BILL 736

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By: **Delegates West, Barron, Hill, Kipke, Krebs, Metzgar, Morgan, Szeliga, and K. Young**

Introduced and read first time: February 2, 2017

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Workgroup to Recommend Possible Reforms to Maryland's Health Care System**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring the Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene, under certain  
4 circumstances, to convene a workgroup to recommend possible reforms to the State's  
5 health care system; requiring that the workgroup include certain individuals;  
6 requiring the Secretary, or the Secretary's designee, to chair the workgroup;  
7 requiring the workgroup, under certain circumstances, to study and assess certain  
8 matters and make certain recommendations; requiring the workgroup, under certain  
9 circumstances, to report its findings and recommendations to the Governor and the  
10 General Assembly on or before a certain date; providing for the termination of this  
11 Act; and generally relating to the Workgroup to Recommend Possible Reforms to  
12 Maryland's Health Care System.

13 Preamble

14 WHEREAS, It is possible that, following the adjournment of the 2017 regular session  
15 of the General Assembly of Maryland, the federal Affordable Care Act may be repealed or  
16 reformed in a way that has a significant impact on Maryland's health care system; and

17 WHEREAS, It is possible that, following the adjournment of the 2017 regular session  
18 of the General Assembly of Maryland, Medicaid may be reformed in a way that has a  
19 significant impact on Maryland's health care system; and

20 WHEREAS, It is possible that, following the adjournment of the 2017 regular session  
21 of the General Assembly of Maryland, developments at the federal level may have a  
22 significant impact on the operation of the Maryland Health Benefit Exchange; and

23 WHEREAS, It is possible that, following the adjournment of the 2017 regular session  
24 of the General Assembly of Maryland, the All-Payor Model Contract in effect between the  
25 State of Maryland and the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services may be

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 terminated, thus significantly affecting future Medicare and Medicaid payments to  
2 Maryland hospitals; now, therefore,

3 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,  
4 That:

5 (a) The Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene shall convene a workgroup to  
6 recommend possible reforms to the State's health care system if:

7 (1) the federal Affordable Care Act is repealed or reformed in a way that  
8 has a significant impact on Maryland's health care system;

9 (2) Medicaid is reformed in a way that has a significant impact on  
10 Maryland's health care system;

11 (3) developments at the federal level have a significant impact on the  
12 operation of the Maryland Health Benefit Exchange; or

13 (4) the All-Payor Model Contract in effect between the State of Maryland  
14 and the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services is terminated or not renewed.

15 (b) The workgroup convened under subsection (a) of this section shall include:

16 (1) two members of the Senate Finance Committee, selected by the  
17 President of the Senate;

18 (2) one member of the Senate Finance Committee, selected by the Senate  
19 Minority Leader;

20 (3) two members of the House Health and Government Operations  
21 Committee, selected by the Speaker of the House;

22 (4) one member of the House Health and Government Operations  
23 Committee, selected by the House Minority Leader;

24 (5) the Attorney General, or the Attorney General's designee;

25 (6) the Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene, or the Secretary's  
26 designee;

27 (7) the Secretary of Budget and Management, or the Secretary's designee;

28 (8) the Maryland Insurance Commissioner, or the Commissioner's  
29 designee;

30 (9) the Executive Director of the Maryland Health Care Commission, or the  
31 Executive Director's designee;

1 (10) the Executive Director of the Health Services Cost Review Commission,  
2 or the Executive Director's designee; and

3 (11) the following individuals, selected by the Secretary of Health and  
4 Mental Hygiene:

5 (i) one representative of a nonprofit insurance company that sells  
6 health insurance in the State;

7 (ii) one representative of the Maryland Hospital Association;

8 (iii) one representative of MedChi, The Maryland State Medical  
9 Society;

10 (iv) one representative of the general public representing health care  
11 consumers in the State; and

12 (v) any other individuals as deemed necessary by the Secretary.

13 (c) The Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene, or the Secretary's designee,  
14 shall chair the workgroup.

15 (d) If convened, the workgroup shall:

16 (1) study and assess how developments at the federal level may affect the  
17 State's health care system; and

18 (2) make recommendations regarding how to reform the State's health care  
19 system to best protect the health care of the residents of Maryland in an affordable way.

20 (e) If convened, on or before January 10, 2018, the workgroup shall report its  
21 findings and recommendations to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the  
22 State Government Article, the General Assembly.

23 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July  
24 1, 2017. It shall remain effective for a period of 1 year and, at the end of June 30, 2018,  
25 with no further action required by the General Assembly, this Act shall be abrogated and  
26 of no further force and effect.