

# HOUSE BILL 1277

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HB 1621/18 – HGO

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By: **Delegates Lisanti and Johnson**

Introduced and read first time: February 7, 2020

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **University of Maryland – Harford Memorial Hospital Closure – Economic**  
3 **Impact Study**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring the University of Maryland Institute for Governmental  
5 Service and Research to conduct a study on the economic impact of the closure of  
6 Harford Memorial Hospital in Havre de Grace and the transfer of its services to  
7 another location; requiring the Institute to conduct the study in a certain manner;  
8 requiring the Institute to develop a revitalization plan for the City in a certain  
9 manner; requiring the Institute to report certain findings and information to certain  
10 committees of the General Assembly on or before a certain date; providing for the  
11 termination of this Act; and generally relating to the economic impact of the closure  
12 of Harford Memorial Hospital.

13 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,  
14 That:

15 (a) The University of Maryland Institute for Governmental Service and Research  
16 shall conduct a study on the economic impact of the closure of Harford Memorial Hospital  
17 and the subsequent transfer of its services to another campus under the University of  
18 Maryland Upper Chesapeake Health System.

19 (b) (1) In conducting the study required under subsection (a) of this section,  
20 the Institute shall quantify the economic impact of the hospital closure on the City of Havre  
21 de Grace.

22 (2) The study shall consider:

23 (i) the impact on existing small businesses in downtown Havre de  
24 Grace, including any displacement effect from new businesses established at the new  
25 campus;

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (ii) the effect on employment at the existing facility at Harford  
2 Memorial Hospital, including the costs and benefits of relocation to the new facility;

3 (iii) the effect on homeownership in the surrounding communities,  
4 including any effect on property values and on Harford County's property tax assessable  
5 base; and

6 (iv) any other potential consequences for the City of Havre de Grace  
7 from a prolonged vacancy at the current hospital site.

8 (c) The Institute shall develop a revitalization plan for the City of Havre de Grace  
9 that:

10 (1) is consistent with the City's current comprehensive plan;

11 (2) incorporates the findings of the economic impact study required under  
12 subsection (a) of this section; and

13 (3) includes opportunities for public-private investment from the local,  
14 State, and University of Maryland Medical System partnership.

15 (d) On or before December 1, 2020, the Institute shall report to the Senate  
16 Finance Committee and the House Economic Matters Committee, in accordance with  
17 § 2-1257 of the State Government Article, on the findings of the study required under  
18 subsection (a) of this section and the revitalization plan required under subsection (c) of  
19 this section.

20 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June  
21 1, 2020. It shall remain effective for a period of 1 year and 1 month and, at the end of June  
22 30, 2021, this Act, with no further action required by the General Assembly, shall be  
23 abrogated and of no further force and effect.