

HOUSE BILL 373

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2lr1491

By: ~~Delegate Reznik~~ Delegates Reznik, Pendergrass, Pena-Melnyk, Bagnall, Belcastro, Bhandari, Carr, Chisholm, Cullison, Hill, Johnson, Kaiser, Kelly, Kerr, Kipke, Landis, R. Lewis, Morgan, Reilly, Rosenberg, Saab, Sample-Hughes, Szeliga, and K. Young

Introduced and read first time: January 19, 2022

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

House action: Adopted

Read second time: February 25, 2022

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **State Postmortem Examiners Commission – Minimum Staffing Requirements**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring the ~~State Postmortem Examiners Commission~~ Maryland
4 Department of Health to ensure that the number of staff employed by the State
5 Postmortem Examiners Commission does not fall to a level that would constitute a
6 Phase II violation according to the National Association of Medical Examiners; and
7 generally relating to the State Postmortem Examiners Commission.

8 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

9 Article – Health – General

10 Section 5–305(a)

11 Annotated Code of Maryland

12 (2019 Replacement Volume and 2021 Supplement)

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

14 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

15 **Article – Health – General**

16 5–305.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



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1 (a) (1) The Commission may employ a staff in accordance with the State
2 budget for the operation of the Commission and to maintain accreditation.

3 (2) The staff shall include:

4 (i) 1 chief medical examiner;

5 (ii) 2 deputy chief medical examiners;

6 (iii) Assistant medical examiners;

7 (iv) 1 chief State toxicologist, 1 deputy chief State toxicologist, lead
8 toxicologists, and assistant toxicologists;

9 (v) 1 serologist;

10 (vi) 4 resident medical doctors who are training in forensic pathology;

11 (vii) 1 chief forensic investigator, 2 deputy chief forensic
12 investigators, lead forensic investigators, and assistant forensic investigators; and

13 (viii) 1 autopsy services supervisor, 1 deputy supervisor, lead autopsy
14 technicians, and assistant autopsy technicians.

15 (3) The Commission may employ any physician on a contract basis for
16 part-time services.

17 **(4) THE ~~COMMISSION~~ DEPARTMENT SHALL ENSURE THAT THE**
18 **NUMBER OF STAFF EMPLOYED BY THE COMMISSION DOES NOT FALL TO A LEVEL**
19 **THAT WOULD CONSTITUTE A PHASE II VIOLATION ACCORDING TO THE NATIONAL**
20 **ASSOCIATION OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS.**

21 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
22 October 1, 2022.

Approved:

Governor.

Speaker of the House of Delegates.

President of the Senate.