Chapter 409

(Senate Bill 644)

AN ACT concerning

Maternal Mortality Review Program – Local Teams – Access to Information and Records

FOR the purpose of altering the information to which a local maternal mortality review team is to be provided access on request of the chair of the team; requiring that a local team be provided immediate access to requested information; requiring certain health care providers and health care facilities to provide certain access to certain medical records to the local maternal mortality review team under certain circumstances; providing that certain provisions of law related to the confidentiality of medical records do not apply to certain disclosures made to a local team; and generally relating to access to information and records by local maternal mortality review teams.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article – Health – General Section 13–1209 <u>13–1205</u> Annotated Code of Maryland

(2019 Replacement Volume and 2022 Supplement)

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

Article - Health - General

<u>13–1205.</u>

- (a) A health care provider or health care facility, as defined under Title 19, Subtitles 3, 3A, and 3B of this article, shall provide the Maternal Mortality Review Program reasonable access to all relevant medical records associated with a case under review by the Maternal Mortality Review Program.
- (B) A HEALTH CARE PROVIDER OR HEALTH CARE FACILITY, AS DEFINED UNDER TITLE 19, SUBTITLES 3, 3A, AND 3B OF THIS ARTICLE, SHALL PROVIDE TO THE LOCAL TEAM, ON REQUEST OF THE CHAIR, PROMPT ACCESS TO ALL RELEVANT MEDICAL RECORDS ASSOCIATED WITH A CASE UNDER REVIEW BY THE MATERNAL MORTALITY REVIEW PROGRAM WITHOUT UNDUE DELAY.
- [(b)] (C) The provisions of Title 4, Subtitle 3 of this article do not apply to a disclosure made to the Program OR TO A LOCAL TEAM under this subtitle.

13-1209

On request of the chair of the local team and as necessary to carry out the local team's purpose and duties, the local team shall be provided:

- (1) [Access]-IMMEDIATE ACCESS to all [relevant] information and records [in accordance with the local team's data use agreement with the Department], INCLUDING INFORMATION ON PRENATAL CARE MAINTAINED BY A HEALTH CARE PROVIDER REGARDING A WOMAN WHOSE DEATH IS BEING REVIEWED BY THE LOCAL TEAM; and
- (2) [Access]-IMMEDIATE ACCESS, to the extent allowed by law, to all information and records maintained by any State or local government agency, law enforcement investigative information, medical examiner investigative information, parole and probation information and records, and information and records of a social services agency that provided services to a woman whose death is being reviewed by the local team.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2023.

Approved by the Governor, May 3, 2023.