

2002 LAWS OF MARYLAND

MARYLAND; Sct.:

At a Session of the General Assembly of Maryland, begun and held in the City of Annapolis on the Ninth Day of January 2002, and ending on the Eighth Day of April 2002, Parris N. Glendening being Governor of the State, the following laws were enacted, to wit:

CHAPTER 1

(Senate Bill 234)

AN ACT concerning

Catastrophic Health Emergencies - Powers of the Governor and the Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene

FOR the purpose of authorizing the Governor to ~~proclaim~~ issue an order proclaiming the existence of a catastrophic health emergency; specifying the powers of the Governor during a catastrophic health emergency; specifying when a proclamation of a catastrophic health emergency will expire; specifying the contents of an order; requiring the Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene to issue a certain directive in a certain manner; providing for the contents of the directive; providing for a hearing to contest the directive; authorizing certain individuals to request a hearing in circuit court under certain circumstances; requiring the circuit court to follow certain procedures under certain circumstances; requiring the Court of Appeals to develop certain emergency rules of procedure; providing for civil and criminal immunity for health care providers under certain circumstances; requiring the State to include health care providers in any application for financial aid under certain circumstances; ~~authorizing the Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene to exercise certain duties under certain circumstances in order to maintain an effective disease surveillance system; authorizing the Secretary to require certain health care facilities to develop and implement certain contingency plans; requiring the Secretary to develop certain protocols; authorizing the Secretary to require certain health care practitioners to implement certain plans; requiring the Secretary to develop a process to license, certify, and credential health care practitioners under certain circumstances; prohibiting certain persons from disclosing certain information; authorizing the Secretary to perform certain duties when investigating actual or potential exposures to certain deadly~~

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.

Italics indicate opposite chamber / conference committee amendments.