

## MONTGOMERY COUNTY

seen fit in enacting this legislation to provide the County Executive with broad latitude in making appointments to the Board. Nevertheless, the Council strongly urges and sincerely hopes that the Executive will consider for appointment to the Board representatives from the aforementioned categories of health providers.

b. As stated in Section 24-23 of Bill 16-73, the Council strongly urges the Executive, in making initial appointment to the Advisory Board, to consider, to the extent possible, for membership on the Board those individuals who have served on the Board of Community and Mental Health, which terminates as of the effective date of this legislation. The Council feels that these individuals possess the type of background, dedication and interest in health-related matters that would enhance significantly the comprehensive health planning program in the County. For this reason the County should continue to make maximum use of the talents and services of these former Board members.

2. Orientation program for consumer representatives on the Health Planning Advisory Board.

The Council is aware that Advisory Board members representing providers of health services will possess, for the most part, a broad background and experience in health programs and health-related matters. However, consumer members, if they are to be representative of all segments of the community, hardly could be expected to share this same type of background and experience. For this reason, the Council strongly urges the County Executive and the Advisory Board to develop for the newly-appointed consumer members of the Board a program of orientation covering comprehensive health planning and related health programs and services. The Council believes that this course of action should facilitate the full and meaningful participation in the Board's activities by consumer members of the Board.

3. Review of operations and activities of the County Health Department.

The Council deems it essential that the review and oversight of the operations and activities of the County Health Department formerly exercised by the Board of Community and Mental Health be continued by the newly-created Health Planning Advisory Board. Such duties and responsibilities are set out in Section 24-28(b) of Bill 16-73. In this regard, it is the intent of the Council that the Board, pursuant to authority contained in Section 24-27 of the bill, establish a standing committee whose sole purpose would be to