

CHAPTER 34

(House Bill 1009)

AN ACT concerning

**Task Force on the Structural Under-Funding of Community Services for
Individuals with Developmental Disabilities to Study the Developmental
Disabilities Administration Rate Payment Systems**

FOR the purpose of ~~establishing the Task Force on the Structural Under-Funding of
Community Services for Individuals with Disabilities~~ requiring the Department
of Health and Mental Hygiene to establish the Task Force to Study the
Developmental Disabilities Administration Rate Payment Systems; providing
for the membership of the Task Force; requiring the ~~Task Force to elect
Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene to appoint~~ a chair; requiring the
Department of Health and Mental Hygiene to provide staff for the Task Force;
providing for the duties of the Task Force; prohibiting members of the Task
Force from receiving certain compensation; authorizing members of the Task
Force to receive certain assistance upon approval of the Secretary of Health and
Mental Hygiene; requiring the Task Force to report to the Governor, the Senate
Finance Committee, the Senate Budget and Taxation Committee, the House
Health and Government Operations Committee, and the House Appropriations
Committee; providing for the termination of this Act; and generally relating to
the Task Force ~~on the Structural Under-Funding of Community Services for
Individuals with Disabilities~~ to Study the Developmental Disabilities
Administration Rate Payment Systems.

Preamble

WHEREAS, Community services for individuals with developmental disabilities
should be high quality and individualized to meet each person's needs; and

WHEREAS, 22,000 individuals with developmental disabilities, with over
16,000 more on the Waiting List, depend upon the community services funded by the
State of Maryland; and

WHEREAS, The viability of community services for individuals with
developmental disabilities is threatened by structural under-funding; and

WHEREAS, Maryland ranks 44th nationally in its fiscal effort to fund and
support services for individuals with developmental disabilities; and