

that aggregate rates are set in reasonable relationship to the hospital's aggregate costs, and that rates are set equitably among all purchasers of services without undue discrimination.

The Commission consists of seven members appointed to four-year terms by the Governor. Authorization for the Commission continues until July 1, 1993 (Code Health—General Article, secs. 19-201 through 19-222).

STATE HEALTH RESOURCES PLANNING COMMISSION

Chairperson: Carville M. Akehurst, 1990

Vivian C. Bailey, 1988; Pamela Brewington, 1988; Philip L. Jones, 1988; F. Perry Smith, Jr., 1988; James T. Estes, M.D., 1989; Mary Etta Mills, Sc.D., 1989; Dominic B. Raino, 1989; Harvay R. Wertlieb, 1989; Francis A. Pommert, Jr., 1990; Nick Rajacich, 1990; Otis Warren, Jr., 1990; *one vacancy.*

Ex officio: Vacancy, *designee of Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene.*

James R. Stanton, *Executive Director*

Edward A. Pigo, *Associate Director*

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In 1982, the State Health Resources Planning Commission was established to promote the development of a health care system that provides access to quality health care at a reasonable cost for all citizens (Chapter 108, Acts of 1982). The Commission plans the development of quality health services within each health service area to meet current and future health care needs; identifies the resources essential to meet defined needs; and promotes through plans and policies appropriate use of those resources. The Commission advocates policies and systems for efficient access to services, including acute, long-term, mental health, primary care, and community alternatives. The Commission also coordinates its work with the State Health Services Cost Review Commission and provides for assessment of the impact of plans and projects on total health care costs to Maryland and to its citizens. Among major Commission programs are preparation of the State Health Plan and conducting the Certificate of Need program to assure that facilities meet standards of public need before building or constructing new services.

The Commission consists of the Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene or designee, and thirteen members appointed to four-year terms by the Governor. Five members represent local health planning agencies, six represent health care providers, and two represent the general public. The Executive Director is appointed by the Commission with the approval of the Governor.

The law creating the Commission also established local health planning agencies to serve gubernatorially designated health service areas. These agencies are required to assure broad citizen representation on their boards and in their activities, develop local health plans, and help develop statewide criteria and standards for Certificate of Need and health planning. The agencies also provide input into evidentiary hearings on the evaluation of Certificate of Need applications. At present, there are five such agencies: 1) Health Systems Agency of Western Maryland, serving Garrett, Allegany, Washington, and Frederick counties; 2) Montgomery County Health Systems Agency; 3) Southern Maryland Health Systems Agency, serving Prince George's, Charles, Calvert, and St. Mary's counties; 4) Central Maryland Health Systems Agency, serving Baltimore City and Anne Arundel, Baltimore, Carroll, Harford, and Howard counties; and 5) Health Planning Council of the Eastern Shore, serving Cecil, Kent, Queen Anne's, Talbot, Caroline, Dorchester, Wicomico, Somerset, and Worcester counties (Code Health—General Article, secs. 19-103 through 19-122).

OFFICE OF BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS PROGRAMS

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The Division of Boards and Commissions was reorganized as the Office of Boards and Commissions Programs in 1986. In 1987, the Office was placed under the Regulatory Services Administration. The Office is responsible for the examination, licensing, and surveillance of health professionals in Maryland. Numerous boards and commissions, established to regulate a wide range of health professionals, are assisted and supported by the Office.

Under the Office of Boards and Commissions Programs are twenty-five licensing and regulatory boards and commissions. They include the State Anatomy Board, State Commission on Arthritis