
STATE HEALTH RESOURCES PLANNING COMMISSION

Marcia Gann Pines, *Chairperson*, 1994

Appointed by Governor (who also designates chair): Vivian C. Bailey, 1992; Pamela Brewington, 1992; F. Perry Smith, Jr., 1992; Brennen Taylor, Ph.D., 1992; Gregory Scott Hunter, 1993; George S. Malouf, M.D., 1993; Mary Erta Mills, Sc.D., 1993; Harvey R. Wertlieb, 1993; James T. Estes, 1994; Walter J. Hall, 1994; Patricia J. Horsey, 1994; Francis A. Pommert, Jr., 1994.

Ex officio: Nelson J. Sabatini, Secretary of Health & Mental Hygiene.

James R. Stanton, *Executive Director*
Edward A. Pigo, *Associate Director*

4201 Patterson Ave., Room 226
Baltimore, MD 21215 764-3255

The State Health Resources Planning Commission originated in 1968 as the Comprehensive Health Planning Agency (Chapter 221, Acts of 1968). The Agency was reformed as the Maryland Health Planning and Development Agency in 1978 (Chapter 911, Acts of 1978). In 1982, the State Health Resources Planning Commission replaced the Agency (Chapter 108, Acts of 1982).

The Commission promotes the development of a health care system that provides quality care at reasonable cost for all citizens. The Commission plans the development of quality health services within each health service area to meet current and future needs; identifies essential resources; and encourages the effective 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 assesses the impact of plans and projects on total health care costs to Maryland and its citizens. In addition, the Commission prepares the State Health Plan and conducts the Certificate of Need program to assure that institutions meet standards of public need before building or constructing new facilities.

The law creating the Commission also established local health planning agencies to serve health service areas designated by the Governor. These agencies are required to assure broad citizen representation of their region and in their activities, formulate local health plans, and help develop statewide criteria and standards for Certificate of Need and health planning. Local agencies may testify at evidentiary hearings or submit recommendations on the evaluation of Certificate of Need applications. Presently, local agencies serve the following designated health service areas: 1) Western

Maryland counties of Garrett, Allegany, Washington, Frederick, and Carroll; 2) Montgomery County; 3) Southern Maryland counties of Prince George's, Charles, Calvert, and St. Mary's; 4) Central Maryland area of Baltimore City and Anne Arundel, Baltimore, Harford and Howard counties; and 5) Eastern Shore counties of Cecil, Kent, Queen Anne's, Talbot, Caroline, Dorchester, Wicomico, Somerset, and Worcester.

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 Governor designates the chairperson. The Executive Director is appointed by the Commission with the approval of the Governor (Code Health—General Article, secs. 19-103 through 19-122).

OFFICE OF BOARDS & COMMISSIONS PROGRAMS

Margaret S. Mason, *Coordinator*

4201 Patterson Ave.
Baltimore, MD 21215-2299 764-4700

The Division of Boards and Commissions was reorganized in 1986 as the Office of Boards and Commissions Programs. The Office is responsible for the examination, licensing, regulation, and surveillance of health professionals in Maryland.

Under the Office of Boards and Commissions Programs are twenty-three licensing and regulatory boards and commissions. They include the State Anatomy Board, State Commission on Arthritis and Related Diseases, State Board of Examiners for Audiologists, State Board of Chiropractic Examiners, State Board of Dental Examiners, State Board of Dietetic Practice, State Board of Electrologists, State Commission on Hereditary and Congenital Disorders, State Commission on High Blood Pressure and Related Cardiovascular Risk Factors, State Commission on Kidney Disease, State Board of Morticians, State Board of Nursing, State Board of Examiners of Nursing Home Administrators, State Board of Occupational Therapy Practice, State Board of Examiners in Optometry, State Board of Pharmacy, State Commission on Physical Fitness, State Board of Physical Therapy Examiners, State Board of Podiatric Medical Examiners, State Board of Examiners of Professional Counselors, State Board of Examiners of Psychologists, State Board of Social Work Examiners, and State Board of Examiners for Speech-Language Pathologists. The State Board of Physician Quality Assurance receives staff support from the Office.