SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Joint Committee on Health Care Cost Containment shall study the impact of private utilization review agents on the delivery of health services particularly in the treatment of alcoholism, drug abuse, and mental illness. In addition to assessing the effectiveness of private review agents, the Joint Committee shall examine, among other relevant factors: the feasibility of establishing uniform standards for the utilization review of health-care services; the extent to which criteria are consistent with accepted standards of practice; the extent to which the review and appeal policies of private review agents are impeding or denying the access of Marylanders to medically necessary services; the desirability of making private review agents liable in any cause of action against a health care provider in which the policies or determinations of the private review agent contributed to a medical injury or other adverse patient outcome; extent to which the utilization review criteria are consistent with accepted standards of practice; methods to promote greater consensus between providers and private review agents on utilization review criteria; the feasibility and desirability of requiring all private review agents to disclose their specific standards and criteria for utilization review of proposed or delivered services; and the extent to which private review agents are compensated by incentive based contracts. The Joint Committee shall report its preliminary findings to the General Assembly by December 15, 1990.

SECTION 2. 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 1990.

Approved May 29, 1990.

CHAPTER 506

(Senate Bill 777)

AN ACT concerning

## Property Tax Credit - Airport Noise Zone

FOR the purpose of authorizing the governing body of a county or municipal corporation to grant a tax credit against property tax imposed on owner-occupied residential real property within a certain noise zone surrounding Baltimore-Washington International Airport; authorizing a local governing body to provide by law for the amount and duration of the credit and any other provision necessary to carry out the credit; and generally relating to authorization for a local property tax credit for certain property within a certain noise zone surrounding Baltimore-Washington International Airport.

BY adding to

Article - Tax - Property
Section 9-215
Annotated Code of Maryland
(1986 Volume and 1989 Supplement)