

diseases; to provide for the appointment of a Chief of said Bureau and the employees thereof; authorizing the State Board of Health to establish a Council on Medical Care to advise in the formulation of policies for the administration of a medical care program, and providing for the appointment of the members of said Council.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland*, That Section 33 of Article 43 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1939 Edition), title "Health", sub-title "Miscellaneous Provisions", be and the same is hereby repealed and re-enacted, with amendments, to read as follows:

33. The State Board of Health is authorized and empowered to establish seven bureaus, to be known as the bureau of communicable diseases, the bureau of bacteriology, the bureau of chemistry, the bureau of sanitary engineering, the bureau of vital statistics, the bureau of child hygiene and the Bureau of Medical Services.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That a new section be and the same is hereby added to Article 43 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1939 Edition), title "Health", sub-title "Miscellaneous Provisions", to be known as Section 44A, to follow immediately after Section 44 of said Article, and to read as follows:

44A. The Bureau of Medical Services, under the direction of the Director of Health, shall (1) administer a program of medical care in the State of Maryland for indigent and medically indigent persons, or either of such classes; for this purpose the Bureau of Medical Services is hereby authorized to contract with physicians, dentists and hospitals for the medical, dental, surgical and hospital treatment of eligible persons; within the provisions of the Budget the said Bureau is hereby authorized to provide bedside nursing care for eligible persons. (2) The Bureau of Medical Services, under the direction of the Director of Health, shall conduct and operate such hospitals as may be established by law and placed under the jurisdiction of the said Board of Health for the care of persons suffering from chronic diseases.

The State Board of Health shall appoint a Chief of the Bureau of Medical Services upon nomination of the Director of Health, and also such employees, including nurses, as may be necessary to accomplish the purposes of this Act in accordance with the provisions of the Budget. The Chief of the Bureau of Medical Services and all employees and nurses shall be appointed in accordance with, and be covered by, the provisions of the Merit System.