

The Governor shall contract and do such other things as necessary and proper to develop an agency and programs for comprehensive health planning throughout the State in order to assure the highest level of health attainable for every person in an environment, which contributes positively to healthful individual and family living. He shall participate in inter-governmental collaboration and in official and voluntary efforts to identify health goals and needs as well as to stimulate action to coordinate all existing and planned facilities, services, and manpower in the fields of physical, mental, and environmental health.

(b) Specifically, the Governor shall:

(1) Designate or provide for the establishment of a single State agency hereinafter referred to as the State's Comprehensive Health Planning Agency, which shall be part of the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, with the Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene as chairman, as the sole agency for administering or supervising the administration of the State's health planning functions;

(2) Appoint a State Health Planning Council, which shall include representatives of State and local agencies and nongovernmental organizations and groups concerned with health, to advise the State's Comprehensive Health Planning Agency in carrying out its functions. A majority of the membership of such Council shall consist of representatives of consumers of health services.

(c) State's Comprehensive Health Planning Agency shall (1) set forth policies and procedures which are designed to provide for comprehensive State planning for health services (public and private), including the facilities and persons required for the provision of such services, to meet the health needs of the people of the State *except that it shall not direct where or in what field any practitioner may practice*; and (2) encourage cooperative efforts among governmental or nongovernmental health, education, welfare, and rehabilitation agencies, organizations, and groups concerned with or affecting health services, facilities, or manpower.

(d) State's Comprehensive Health Planning Agency may accept such federal and other funds as may be available to carry out the purposes of this section.

(e) The Governor may direct any State officer or agency to cooperate with the State's Comprehensive Health Planning Agency in carrying out such functions as are necessary to further the purposes of this section.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 1971.

Approved April 29, 1971

CHAPTER 223
(Senate Bill 196)

AN ACT to repeal and re-enact, with amendments, Section 9 (b) of Article 77A of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1969 Replacement Volume and 1970 Supplement), title "Higher Education,"