

ing requirements, suspension and revocation of licenses; to provide for the financing of mental retardation services; to provide for patients' civil rights and the enforcement thereof; to provide for civil and criminal penalties; TO PROVIDE FOR A COMPREHENSIVE PLAN OF DAY PROGRAMS AND RESIDENTIAL SERVICES FOR THE NON-RETARDED DEVELOPMENTALLY DISABLED AND GENERALLY RELATING THERETO; and relating generally to all phases of the law pertaining to mental retardation and mentally retarded persons.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That Sections 2, 3, 22(a), 31(a) and 54 of Article 59 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1968 Replacement Volume and 1971 Supplement), title "Mental Hygiene," subtitles, "Short Title, Statement of Policy and Definitions," "Admissions, Release and Transfer," "Facilities," and "Mental Health Information and Review Service," respectively, be and they are hereby repealed and re-enacted, with amendments, to read as follows:

2.

It is the policy of the State of Maryland that the mental hygiene of its citizens be fostered and preserved to the best of the ability of the State. To that end, care and treatment to or for all citizens of the State affected by or afflicted with mental illness [or mental retardation] shall be provided without partiality. It is also the policy of this State that those persons who have financial resources sufficient to pay the cost of their care and treatment shall do so. The provisions of this article shall be construed in a manner consistent with the policy of the State as herein defined.

3.

As used in this article, the following terms shall have the meanings indicated unless a contrary meaning is clearly intended from the context in which the term appears:

(a) "Admission" shall mean that process by which any person is admitted as an inpatient to any facility or Veterans' Administration hospital in the State intended to be used for the care of any person suffering any mental disability and shall include the physical act of entering the facility or Veterans' Administration hospital by any such person.

(b) "Commissioner" shall mean the Commissioner of Mental Hygiene of the State of Maryland.

(c) "Cost of care" shall mean and include the cost of care, maintenance, treatment and support of each individual patient in a public facility.

(d) "Department" shall mean the Department of Mental Hygiene of the State of Maryland.

(e) "Facility" shall mean any clinic, hospital, or other institution, public or private, other than a Veterans' Administration hospital, which purports to or does provide treatment or other services for persons having any mental disorder.