Preamble

WHEREAS, Physicians practicing medicine within the State of Maryland are finding it increasingly difficult to obtain medical malpractice insurance; and

WHEREAS, The lack of medical malpractice insurance for physicians will seriously hamper the practice of medicine in the State of Maryland and will seriously affect the health and welfare of the citizens of Maryland; and

WHEREAS, The lack of adequate insurance will cause those parties injured by medical malpractice to be severely limited as to their ability to recover fair and equitable compensation; and

WHEREAS, Because of the conditions found by the General Assembly as stated in this section, it is the purpose of this Act to establish a mutual liability insurance company to provide payment to injured parties who have sustained bodily injury or death as a result of medical injury resulting from the rendering of or failure to render professional services by physicians, to authorize a tax on physicians to create a mutual liability insurance company, and thereby avert the incipient crisis developing to the detriment of the general public, physicians and patients; and

WHEREAS, The State of Maryland exercises herein its police and sovereign power in the interest of the public welfare and declares that on and after the effective date as provided in this Act the creation, powers and duties of the Medical Mutual Liability Insurance Society of Maryland shall be subject to the provisions of this Act; now, therefore,

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That new Sections 547 through [[554]] [[556]] 555 to be under the new subtitle "36. Medical Mutual Liability Insurance Society of Maryland" be and they are hereby added to Article 48A — Insurance Code, of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1972 Replacement Volume and 1974 Supplement) to read as follows:

Article 48A - Insurance Code

36. MEDICAL MUTUAL LIABILITY INSURANCE SOCIETY OF MARYLAND

547. PURPOSE

THE PURPOSE OF THIS SUBTITLE IS TO PROVIDE FOR THE