

(House Bill 223)

AN ACT concerning

Local Mental Health Advisory Committees

FOR the purpose of changing the membership categories of the local mental health advisory committees to include practicing mental health professionals and certain recipients and relatives of recipients of mental health care, and to delete ~~physicians~~ and certain local councils on alcoholism; correcting certain obsolete references; and numbering certain provisions.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article 43 - Health
Section 1J(c)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(1971 Replacement Volume and 1977 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That section(s) of the Annotated Code of Maryland be repealed, amended, or enacted to read as follows:

Article 43 - Health

1J.

(c) (1) The governing body of each county and of Baltimore City shall establish a mental health advisory committee and appoint the members of it. Membership shall consist of one representative FROM each [from] OF THE FOLLOWING CATEGORIES: the local governing body, the department of education, the department of social services, the practicing [physicians] physicians, OTHER MENTAL HEALTH PROFESSIONALS, the clergy, the legal profession, the mental health association, where one exists, [the local council on alcoholism, where one exists], AN INDIVIDUAL WHO HAS OR IS RECEIVING MENTAL HEALTH CARE, AN INDIVIDUAL WHO IS A RELATIVE OF A MENTAL HEALTH CARE RECIPIENT, and at least three [additional] members representing the community [as a whole]. The term of office of each member is three years commencing from the first day of July of the year of appointment except that of the members first appointed one third shall be appointed for a term of two years and one third for a term of one year. Members who have served two consecutive full terms may not be eligible for reappointment for a period of three years following completion of their terms. The officers of the committee shall be elected annually by the membership and the chairmanship may not be held by the same person for more than two consecutive years. The committee is empowered to create internal subcommittees and draw in additional participants as needed. The local health officer, the regional mental health director, and a representative of the appropriate inpatient unit of the