

Chapter 854 of the laws of 1980 requires facilities that provide for the treatment of alcoholism to be certified by the Alcoholism Control Administration within the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene before insurance reimbursement is available for those facilities. Various federal acts require the states to certify alcoholism treatment programs in order to qualify for federal funds. A failure to certify these programs places federal funds in jeopardy.

Although Chapter 621 of the laws of 1981 enacted a program to certify alcoholism and alcohol abuse facilities within the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, that program, as enacted, does not take effect until July 1, 1983.

The General Assembly finds that there is an urgent need to accelerate the implementation date of the alcoholism certification program to insure the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of Maryland who are being treated at alcoholism and alcohol abuse facilities and to insure that insurance reimbursement is available to individuals being treated at those facilities.

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That chapter(s) of the Acts of the General Assembly read(s) as follows:

Chapter 621 of the Acts of 1981

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, [1983.] 1982.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That section(s) of the Annotated Code of Maryland (as enacted by Chapter \_\_\_\_\_ (H.B. 200) of the Acts of the General Assembly of 1982) read(s) as follows:

Article - Health - General

8-411.

(a) In this section, "alcohol abuse facility":

(1) Means any facility that provides treatment, care, and rehabilitation for individuals who show the effects of alcohol abuse or alcoholism; and

(2) Includes a facility that is owned or operated by this State or any of its political subdivisions.

(b) This section does not apply to: