

2005, the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene and the Maryland Medbank Program shall report to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, to the General Assembly on:

(1) the effect on participation in the Maryland Medbank Program of:

(i) the implementation of Medicare Part D under Title XVIII of the Social Security Act, as amended; and

(ii) the availability of the Maryland Pharmacy Discount Program to uninsured individuals with an annual household income below 200% of the federal poverty level;

(2) the effect that participation in the programs under item (1) of this section will have on ongoing costs of the Maryland Medbank Program; and

(3) the efforts by the Maryland Medbank Program to minimize administrative expenses and reduce reliance on public funds.

Article — Health — General

15-124.2.

~~(a) In this section, "Program" means the Maryland Medbank Program established under this section.~~

~~(b) There is a Maryland Medbank Program.~~

~~(c) The purpose of the Program is to improve the health status of individuals throughout the State who lack prescription drug coverage by providing access to medically necessary prescription drugs through patient assistance programs sponsored by pharmaceutical drug manufacturers.~~

~~(d) (1) Subject to paragraph (2) of this subsection, the Program shall be administered by the Medbank of Maryland, Inc.~~

~~(2) The Medbank of Maryland, Inc. shall contract with one or more government or nonprofit entities to operate the Program.~~

~~(e) (1) The Program shall be funded through:~~

~~(i) [a] A grant provided by the Department; AND~~

~~(ii) GRANTS FROM NONPROFIT HEALTH SERVICE PLANS UNDER § 14-106.1 OF THE INSURANCE ARTICLE.~~

~~(ii) THE MARYLAND MEDBANK PROGRAM FUND ESTABLISHED UNDER § 15-124.2 OF THIS SUBTITLE.~~

~~(2) Program funds may be used in part to:~~

~~(i) Purchase interim supplies of prescription drugs for enrollees who have applied to participate in a manufacturer's patient assistance program but have not yet received the approved prescription drug; and~~