

(a) The Mental Hygiene Administration shall conduct or commission a study on the relationship between substance [abuse] USE and mental [illness] HEALTH among counties in Maryland.

(b) When appropriate, the study shall utilize existing resources and data available from such entities as the Maryland Health Care Commission and the [Task Force to Study Increasing the Availability of Substance Abuse Treatment] MARYLAND STATE DRUG AND ALCOHOL ABUSE COUNCIL.

(c) The Mental Hygiene Administration AND THE ALCOHOL AND DRUG ABUSE ADMINISTRATION shall report to the Governor, the Maryland Legislative Black Caucus, the Senate Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee, the Senate Finance Committee, and the House Health and Government Operations Committee on or before January 1[, 2004,] ~~OF EACH YEAR, 2006,~~ in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, on the findings and recommendations of the study.

SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2003. It shall remain effective for a period of [2] ~~5~~ 3 years and 3 months and, at the end of December 31, [2005] ~~2008~~ 2006, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this Act shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2005.

Approved May 10, 2005.

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**CHAPTER 427**

**(House Bill 1276)**

AN ACT concerning

**Public Safety Employees Killed in Performance of Duties - Death Benefits - Heart Attack or Stroke**

FOR the purpose of ~~altering the amount of the death benefit for certain individuals who are killed or die in the performance of duties;~~ providing that on a certain individual who dies from a heart attack or stroke shall be presumed to have died in the performance of duties under certain circumstances; clarifying a certain term; and generally relating to death benefits for employees killed in the performance of duties.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
Article - Public Safety  
Section 1-202  
Annotated Code of Maryland  
(2003 Volume and 2004 Supplement)