

Senate Bill No. 702

AN ACT concerning

Developmental Disabilities Administration - Prioritization System for Investigations

FOR the purpose of requiring the Developmental Disabilities Administration, in conjunction with the Office of Health Care Quality, to adopt regulations establishing a certain prioritization system for responding to and investigating certain incidents; requiring the Administration to seek input from certain individuals in developing the regulations; and generally relating to a prioritization system for investigations of licensees of the Developmental Disabilities Administration.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article - Health - General

Section 7-909

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2000 Replacement Volume and 2004 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article - Health - General

7-909.

(a) In this section, the word "licensee" means a person who is licensed by the Administration under this title to provide services.

(b) The Administration or its agent shall inspect each site or office operated by a licensee at least once annually and at any other time that the Administration considers necessary.

(c) The Administration shall keep a report of each inspection.

(d) The Administration shall bring any deficiencies to the attention of:

(1) The executive officer of the licensee; or

(2) In the case of an intermediate care facility-mental retardation, the State Planning Council and the State-designated protection and advocacy agency.

(E) (1) THE ADMINISTRATION, IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE OFFICE OF HEALTH CARE QUALITY, SHALL ADOPT REGULATIONS THAT ESTABLISH A SYSTEM OF PRIORITIZATION TO RESPOND TO AND INVESTIGATE SERIOUS REPORTABLE INCIDENTS, AS DEFINED BY THE ADMINISTRATION, IN THE AREAS OF ABUSE, NEGLECT, SERIOUS INJURY, AND MEDICATION ERRORS THAT THREATEN THE HEALTH, SAFETY, AND WELL-BEING OF INDIVIDUALS RECEIVING SERVICES FUNDED BY THE ADMINISTRATION IN STATE-OPERATED AND COMMUNITY PROGRAMS LICENSED BY THE ADMINISTRATION.