

SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That it is the intent of the General Assembly that the Governor shall include in the State budget each year an appropriation for grants and loans from the Volunteer Company Assistance Fund established under § 8-202 of the Public Safety Article.

SECTION 4. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2005.

Approved April 26, 2005.

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**CHAPTER 137**

**(Senate Bill 247)**

AN ACT concerning

**Health Care Decision Making Forms - Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act - Personal Representatives**

FOR the purpose of ~~authorizing~~ clarifying that a health care agent ~~to act as~~ is a personal representative in order to receive certain health care information in accordance with the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act; ~~authorizing~~ clarifying that a health care agent ~~to act as~~ is a personal representative regarding certain capacity assessments in accordance with the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act; and generally relating to health care decision making forms and personal representatives under the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article - Health - General

Section 5-603

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**

5-603.

**Health Care Decision Making Forms**

The following forms allow you to make some decisions about future health care issues. Form I, called a "Living Will", allows you to make decisions about life-sustaining procedures if, in the future, your death from a terminal condition is imminent despite the application of life-sustaining procedures or you are in a persistent vegetative state. Form II, called an "Advance Directive", allows you to select a health care agent, give health care instructions, or both. If you use the