Disabled Individuals - Consent to Medical or Dental Care

FOR the purpose of providing that certain health care providers may treat a disabled individual without consent under certain circumstances; defining certain terms; providing that certain persons in a certain priority may consent to medical or dental care for a disabled individual under certain circumstances; exempting a health care provider from civil or criminal liability or professional disciplinary action for treating a disabled individual without certain consent of the individual; providing for permitted and prohibited ways of obtaining substituted consent under this Act; and generally relating to obtaining consent to medical or dental care for disabled individuals.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article - Health - General Section 20-107 Annotated Code of Maryland (1982 Volume and 1983 Supplement)

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

Article - Health - General

20-107.

- (a) (1) IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS INDICATED.
- (2) -{-In this section, "disabled-}- "DISABLED individual" means an individual who lacks sufficient understanding or capacity to make or communicate a responsible decision on health care for the individual because of:
 - [(1)] (I) A physical disability;
 - [(2)] (II) Habitual-drunkenness CHRONIC ALCOHOLISM;
 - [(3)] (III) Drug addiction;
 - [(4)] (IV) A disease; or
 - [(5)] (V) A mental disability, including senility.
- (3) "HEALTH CARE PROVIDER" MEANS ANY OF THE FOLLOWING PERSONS LICENSED OR AUTHORIZED TO PROVIDE ONE 1 OR MORE HEALTH CARE SERVICES IN THE STATE:
 - (I) A CHIROPRACTOR.