

WHEREAS, These factors necessitate an immediate time-limited deferral of certain certificate of need applications in order to afford the General Assembly the opportunity to review methods by which the certificate of need process can be streamlined and made more efficient and to review a comprehensive set of legislative initiatives designed to address the issues and challenges now confronting our health care system; now, therefore, and

WHEREAS, Since delay in certain certificate of need applications could negatively impact affect the public health or cause unnecessary burdens for persons whose applications are unrelated to the purpose of this review, exemptions from this Act are justified and necessary; now, therefore,

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That, except as provided below, the Health Resources Planning Commission may not receive or act on any certificate of need application under Title 19 of the Health - General Article until October 1, 1985.

The Commission may shall receive and act on any certificate of need application, ~~including but not limited to an application concerning replacement equipment,~~ that the Commission finds in its sole discretion, addresses an emergency circumstance posing a threat to public health.

Further, the Commission shall receive and act on any certificate of need application for replacement equipment that the Commission finds, in its sole discretion, is justified for the continued effective and efficient delivery of services.

Further, the Commission may complete consideration of and shall act on any application by or on behalf of a related facility institution as defined in § 19-301 of the Health - General Article or any application for medical equipment if the application is from a hospital that is the sole provider of general hospital services located in a county if that application was those applications were docketed on or before February 1, 1985 or if those applications were received prior to November 30, 1984.

Further, the Commission may complete consideration of and act on any application that has been suspended by a request for reconsideration.

Further, the Commission may receive and act on any certificate of need application by or on behalf of a hospital, as defined in § 19-307 19-301 of the Health - General Article, if, after consultation with the Health Services Cost Review Commission, the Commission finds that the application ~~---(a)--- is unrelated to clinical services; ---(b)--- will not increase net inpatient revenues to the applicant facility; ---(c)--- is primarily intended to enhance the efficiency of the facility; and ---(d)~~