

(1) (1) NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER PROVISION OF THIS ARTICLE, ANY ACTION TAKEN BY THE AUTHORITY TO PROVIDE FOR THE PAYMENT OF PUBLIC BODY OBLIGATIONS SHALL BE FOR THE PURPOSE OF MAINTAINING THE CREDIT RATING OF THIS STATE, ITS AGENCIES, INSTRUMENTALITIES, AND POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS, ENSURING THEIR ACCESS TO THE CREDIT MARKETS, AND MAY NOT CONSTITUTE ANY PAYMENT BY OR ON BEHALF OF A CLOSED OR DELICENSED HOSPITAL. A HOSPITAL IS NOT RELIEVED OF ITS OBLIGATIONS WITH RESPECT TO THE PAYMENT OF PUBLIC BODY OBLIGATIONS. THE AUTHORITY SHALL BE SUBROGATED TO THE RIGHTS OF ANY HOLDERS OR ISSUERS OF PUBLIC BODY OBLIGATIONS, AS IF THE PAYMENT OR PROVISION FOR PAYMENT HAD NOT BEEN MADE.

(2) ANY AMOUNT REALIZED BY THE AUTHORITY OR ANY ASSIGNEE OF THE AUTHORITY IN THE ENFORCEMENT OF ANY CLAIM AGAINST A HOSPITAL FOR WHICH A PLAN HAS BEEN DEVELOPED IN ACCORDANCE WITH SUBSECTION (F) OF THIS SECTION SHALL BE APPLIED TO OFFSET THE AMOUNT OF THE FEE REQUIRED TO BE ASSESSED BY THE HEALTH SERVICES COST REVIEW COMMISSION PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (H) OF THIS SECTION. THE COSTS AND EXPENSES OF ENFORCING THE CLAIM, INCLUDING ANY COSTS FOR MAINTAINING THE PROPERTY PRIOR TO ITS DISPOSITION, SHALL BE DEDUCTED FROM THIS AMOUNT.

SECTION--2. ---AND--BE--IT--FURTHER--ENACTED,--That--immediately upon--adoption--of--the--Institution--Specific--Plan--required--by--this Act,--the--Health--Resources--Planning--Commission--shall--begin--the process--of--incorporating--the--Institution--Specific--Plan--into--the State--Health--Plan--and--shall--complete--the--incorporation--within--12 months.

SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene shall report to the General Assembly by December 1, 1985 on the efforts to accomplish voluntary closures, mergers, and consolidations where necessary, and on the need or lack of need to exercise delicensure authority where the action is necessary.

SECTION 4. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Delegates shall appoint 5 Senators and 5 Delegates, respectively, to serve as the Joint Committee on Health Care Cost Containment. The Joint Committee shall be staffed by the Department of Legislative Reference and the Department of Fiscal Services. The Joint Committee, along with the AELR Committee, shall review, prior to publication in the Maryland Register, any regulations relating to hospital closures, mergers, and consolidations proposed pursuant to this Act and any regulations relating to minimum standards for hospital patient utilization review programs proposed pursuant to Chapter ____ (HB 1071/SB 490) of the Laws of 1985. The Joint Committee established by this Section may also consider and review any issues relating to the Health Resources Planning Commission, the Health Services Cost Review Commission, the