

## Article - Health - General

Section 19-1001 through 19-1009, inclusive, to be under the new subtitle "Subtitle 10. Freestanding Birthing Centers"

~~-----Annotated Code of Maryland-----~~  
(1982 Volume and 1984 Supplement)

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

## Article - Health - General

## SUBTITLE 10. FREESTANDING BIRTHING CENTERS

19-1001.

(A) IN THIS SUBTITLE THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS INDICATED.

(B) "FREESTANDING BIRTHING CENTER" MEANS A PUBLIC OR PRIVATE HOME OR FACILITY THAT:

(1) IS SEPARATE FROM A HOSPITAL;

(2) IS SEPARATE FROM THE MOTHER'S RESIDENCE; AND

(3) DIRECTLY OR THROUGH A CONTRACTUAL ARRANGEMENT, PROVIDES NURSE MIDWIFERY SERVICES OR NORMAL MATERNITY SERVICES THAT-ARE DELIVERED BY A PHYSICIAN.

(C) "LICENSE" MEANS A LICENSE ISSUED BY THE SECRETARY TO OPERATE A FREESTANDING BIRTHING CENTER.

(D) "NURSE MIDWIFE SERVICES" MEANS THOSE SERVICES PERMITTED TO BE PROVIDED BY INDIVIDUALS LICENSED TO PRACTICE NURSE MIDWIFERY UNDER TITLE 7, SUBTITLE 6 OF THE HEALTH OCCUPATIONS ARTICLE.

19-1002.

THE PURPOSE OF THIS SUBTITLE IS TO PROMOTE THE HEALTH AND SAFETY OF WOMEN AND NEWBORNS BY PROVIDING FOR THE LICENSING AND REGULATION OF FREESTANDING BIRTHING CENTERS.

19-1003.

(A) IN CONSULTATION WITH THE MEDICAL AND CHIRURGICAL FACULTY OF MARYLAND AND ITS COMMITTEE ON MATERNAL WELFARE AND THE AMERICAN COLLEGE OF NURSE MIDWIVES, THE SECRETARY SHALL ADOPT RULES AND REGULATIONS TO CARRY OUT THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SUBTITLE.