

(2) -- APPEAR BEFORE THE STATE HEALTH RESOURCES PLANNING COMMISSION, THE STATE HEALTH SERVICES COST REVIEW COMMISSION, THE INSURANCE, AND THE COURTS ON BEHALF OF THE PUBLIC IN ALL MATTERS AND PROCEEDINGS IN WHICH THE OFFICE OF THE PEOPLE'S ADVOCATE DETERMINES THE PUBLIC INTEREST TO BE INVOLVED;

(3) -- HAVE ACCESS TO THE RECORDS, INFORMATION, AND FACILITIES OF THE STATE HEALTH RESOURCES PLANNING COMMISSION, THE STATE HEALTH SERVICES COST REVIEW COMMISSION, AND THE INSURANCE COMMISSION THAT RELATE TO THE COST AND QUALITY OF HEALTH CARE, AND

(4) -- RESPOND TO QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC THAT CONCERN THE COST AND QUALITY OF HEALTH CARE.

(B) -- THE OFFICE OF PEOPLE'S ADVOCATE MAY:

(1) -- RECOMMEND LEGISLATION TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY THAT CONCERNS HEALTH CARE AND THE PUBLIC INTEREST;

(2) -- USE THE ASSISTANCE OF THE STAFFS OF THE STATE HEALTH RESOURCES PLANNING COMMISSION, THE STATE HEALTH SERVICES COST REVIEW COMMISSION, AND THE INSURANCE COMMISSION; AND

(3) -- HIRE EXPERTS FROM THE HEALTH CARE INDUSTRY.

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(A) -- EACH YEAR THE OFFICE OF PEOPLE'S ADVOCATE SHALL ASSESS EACH HEALTH CARE FACILITY AND HEALTH INSURANCE COMPANY THAT IS DOING BUSINESS IN THE STATE AN AMOUNT EQUAL TO THE PRODUCT OF THE ESTIMATED COSTS PROVIDED FOR IN § 2-110 OF THIS SUBTITLE BY THE PROPORTION THAT COMPARES THE GROSS OPERATING REVENUE FOR A HEALTH CARE FACILITY OR HEALTH INSURANCE COMPANY TO THE GROSS OPERATING REVENUE FOR ALL HEALTH CARE FACILITIES OR HEALTH INSURANCE COMPANIES THAT DO BUSINESS IN THE STATE.

(B) -- THE ANNUAL ASSESSMENT OF A HEALTH CARE FACILITY OR HEALTH INSURANCE COMPANY:

(1) -- IS AT LEAST \$10 AND NO MORE THAN .05 PERCENT OF THE GROSS OPERATING REVENUE FROM THE PREVIOUS YEAR OF THE HEALTH CARE FACILITY OR HEALTH INSURANCE COMPANY; AND

(2) -- IS DUE AND PAYABLE ON OR BEFORE MAY 1 OF EACH YEAR.

#### SUBTITLE 4A. HEALTH EDUCATION AND ADVOCACY UNIT

13-4A-01.

THERE IS A HEALTH EDUCATION AND ADVOCACY UNIT IN THE DIVISION.

13-4A-02.