

(G) "LIMITED LICENSE" MEANS A LICENSE ISSUED BY THE SECRETARY TO OPERATE A LIMITED HOSPICE CARE PROGRAM.

19-902.

The purposes of this subtitle are:

(1) To simplify and clarify the laws that govern the use of a hospice CARE PROGRAM by individuals who want a supportive environment;

(2) To encourage the establishment of [hospices] HOSPICE CARE PROGRAMS; and

(3) To ensure the quality of these [hospices] HOSPICE CARE PROGRAMS.

19-903.

(a) [In consultation with the Hospice-Reimbursement Study Commission, the] (1) THE Secretary shall adopt [rules and] regulations to carry out the provisions of this subtitle.

(2) THE SECRETARY, BY REGULATION, AFTER CONSULTATION WITH INTERESTED GROUPS, INCLUDING THE HOSPICE NETWORK OF MARYLAND, INC., SHALL ESTABLISH STANDARDS FOR THE OPERATION OF A HOME-BASED HOSPICE CARE PROGRAM.

(b) (1) The [rules and] regulations shall set qualifications for medical directors of hospices. A MEDICAL DIRECTOR OF A HOSPICE CARE PROGRAM NEED NOT BE AN EMPLOYEE OR A CONTRACTEE OF A HOSPICE CARE PROGRAM.

(2) The [rules and] regulations FOR A HOSPICE FACILITY shall require:

(i) The medical director to be a physician licensed to practice medicine in this State;

(ii) The dietary, nursing, pastoral care, pharmaceutical, and social worker services to be adequate; and

(iii) A physician other than an attending physician to be on call and available at all times.

(3) THE REGULATIONS FOR A HOME-BASED HOSPICE CARE PROGRAM SHALL REQUIRE:

(I) THE MEDICAL DIRECTOR TO BE A PHYSICIAN LICENSED TO PRACTICE MEDICINE IN THIS STATE;

(II) THE PROVISION OF BEREAVEMENT SERVICES;