SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 1988.

Approved May 17, 1988.

CHAPTER 271

(Senate Bill 171)

AN ACT concerning

Rights of Individuals in Related Institutions -Request for Hearing

FOR the purpose of authorizing the Director on Aging or the Director's designee, after a complaint of alleged violations of patients' rights is filed, to request a hearing and act as representative on behalf of the resident under certain circumstances; authorizing the Director on Aging or the Director's designee to take part in hearings; and generally relating to complaint hearings for individuals in related institutions.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article - Health - General Section 19-344(p) Annotated Code of Maryland (1987 Replacement Volume)

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

Article - Health - General

19-344.

- (p) (l) A resident of a facility or the next of kin or guardian of the person of a resident may file a complaint about an alleged violation of this section.
- (2) The complaint may be filed with the State Office on Aging or the Department.
 - (3) The Director on Aging shall:
 - (i) Investigate the complaint; and