

CHAPTER 718

(House Bill 1078)

AN ACT concerning

Physical Therapists - Physical Therapist Rehabilitation Committee

FOR the purpose of designating certain groups and persons as physical therapists rehabilitation committees; granting physical therapists rehabilitation committees certain immunity from certain civil liability under certain circumstances; providing that the proceedings, records, and files of physical therapist rehabilitation committees are not discoverable and not admissible in evidence in certain civil actions; and generally relating to physical therapist rehabilitation committees.

BY adding to

Article - Health Occupations
Section 13-318
Annotated Code of Maryland
(1986 Replacement Volume and 1987 Supplement)

Preamble

WHEREAS, In its nine year history, the Maryland Medical and Chirurgical Faculty's Physician Rehabilitation Committee has investigated more than 300 reports of alcohol addiction, drug addiction, and mental illness and has contributed to the achievement of over more than 150 recoveries by physicians; and

WHEREAS, By making rehabilitation a priority over punishment, the Committee has been able to successfully help physicians while protecting the public; and

WHEREAS, Physicians and physical therapists are also afflicted by alcohol and drug addiction and mental illness and these afflictions may affect their performance; and

WHEREAS, The public would benefit if the American Physical Therapy Association of Maryland established a physical therapist rehabilitation committee; and

WHEREAS, The physical therapist rehabilitation committee will be able to best accomplish its purpose if those who participate in its activities are immune from civil liability and its proceedings, records, and files are not discoverable and not admissible in evidence in civil actions; now, therefore,