

SECTION 4. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 1989.

Approved May 25, 1989.

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CHAPTER 614

(Senate Bill 794)

AN ACT concerning

Maryland Medical Assistance Program  
and Community-Based Initiatives

FOR the purpose of establishing a State policy for the Maryland Medical Assistance Program; requiring the Maryland Medical Assistance Program to ~~provide~~ promote educational opportunities for Program recipients on certain aspects of health care and to work with certain groups to assist in the education of Program recipients; expanding the coverage of the Program to include all infants and pregnant women who fall below a certain poverty level; specifying that the Program may further expand for infants and children under certain circumstances; specifying a funding source for the expansion of the Program; specifying that the Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene may renew certain contracts ~~indefinitely under certain circumstances;~~ shall continue in effect unless terminated by the Program or by the provider; providing a certain exception; specifying that the Program shall use its leverage as a high volume purchaser to increase the cost effectiveness of the Program; ~~requiring the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene to review certain regulations and to amend certain regulations under certain circumstances;~~ requiring the Program to include certain managed care pilot programs for certain groups of Program recipients under certain circumstances; requiring certain managed care pilot programs to be carefully controlled and their health care outcomes and cost ~~savings convincingly demonstrated;~~ requiring changes to the Program's regulations to be made at regular fixed intervals and providing a certain exception; ~~requiring the Department to seek recovery of certain money expended from certain persons;~~ requiring the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene to adopt certain regulations; effectiveness evaluated; establishing a Special Joint Legislative Committee on the Medical Assistance Program with certain responsibilities; providing staff for the Committee; providing for the termination of the Committee by a certain date; ~~requiring certain studies and directives to be undertaken by certain persons and the results of those~~