

Faculty of Maryland, consider sexual exploitation of patients by health professionals to be unethical for all specialties of health care, and have recommended the adoption of further disciplinary and educational measures to address the problem; and

WHEREAS, California, Colorado, Georgia, Florida, Illinois, Iowa, Maine, Massachusetts, Minnesota, New Hampshire, North Dakota, Wisconsin, and Ontario have established task forces to study this problem and have developed means for addressing it; now, therefore,

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

**Article 41 - Governor - Executive and Administrative Departments**

18-304.

(A) THERE IS A TASK FORCE TO STUDY HEALTH PROFESSIONAL-CLIENT SEXUAL EXPLOITATION.

(B) THE TASK FORCE CONSISTS OF THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS:

(1) TWO SENATORS APPOINTED BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE OF MARYLAND;

(2) TWO DELEGATES APPOINTED BY THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES;

(3) THE ATTORNEY GENERAL OR A DESIGNEE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL; AND

(4) ~~SEVENTEEN~~ EIGHTEEN MEMBERS APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR, AS FOLLOWS:

(I) ~~SEVEN MEMBERS WHO HAVE SPECIAL~~ HEALTH CARE CLIENTS OR CONSUMERS WITH SPECIALIZED OR PERSONAL KNOWLEDGE OF OR EXPERIENCE WITH THE PROBLEM OF SEXUAL EXPLOITATION OF CLIENTS BY HEALTH PROFESSIONALS;

(II) TWO MEMBERS OF THE RELIGIOUS COMMUNITY OF THE STATE; AND

(III) ONE MEMBER REPRESENTING EACH OF THE FOLLOWING PROFESSIONS, RECOMMENDED TO THE GOVERNOR BY THE APPROPRIATE STATE PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS, WITH KNOWLEDGE OF AND CONCERN FOR THE PROBLEM OF SEXUAL EXPLOITATION OF CLIENTS BY HEALTH PROFESSIONALS: MEDICINE, PSYCHIATRY, NURSING, PROFESSIONAL COUNSELING, PSYCHOLOGY, PHYSICAL THERAPY, LAW, ~~AND~~ SOCIAL WORK, AND CHIROPRACTIC, AND DENTISTRY.

(C) THE TASK FORCE SHALL DEVELOP A COMPREHENSIVE STRATEGY FOR PREVENTING AND REDUCING THE INCIDENCE OF SEXUAL EXPLOITATION OF CLIENTS BY HEALTH PROFESSIONALS BY: