

certain health care practitioners are subject to certain disciplinary action under certain circumstances; requiring certain health care practitioners to dispose of certain beneficial interests or terminate certain compensation agreements by a certain date under certain circumstances; providing for a delay in the applicability of certain provisions of this Act; specifying that certain provisions of law do not apply to certain persons; establishing a certain criminal penalty and providing for the imposition of a certain fine; requiring the Institute for Governmental Service and the William Donald Schaefer Center for Public Policy jointly to conduct a study of the extent to which health care practitioners in Maryland have beneficial interests in or compensation arrangements with health care entities to which they make certain referrals; requiring the study to make comparisons of the frequency of patient referrals and the cost of services between certain health care practitioners; requiring the study to evaluate if certain referral arrangements result in higher costs of health care and unnecessary utilization of health care services; requiring the Institute for Governmental Service and the William Donald Schaefer Center for Public Policy to make certain reports; and generally relating to referrals of patients by health care practitioners and their reimbursement by third party payors.

BY repealing

Article – Health Occupations

Section 1-206

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1991 Replacement Volume and 1992 Supplement)

BY adding to

Article – Health Occupations

Section 1-301 through 1-306 to be under the new subtitle “Subtitle 3. Patient Referrals”

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1991 Replacement Volume and 1992 Supplement)

BY adding to

Article – Health – General

Section 19-712.4

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1990 Replacement Volume and 1992 Supplement)

BY adding to

Article 48A – Insurance Code

Section 354MM, 470CC, and 477MM

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1991 Replacement Volume and 1992 Supplement)