

FOR the purpose of providing residents of related institutions with certain additional protections relating to a resident's assets and income and the involuntary discharge and transfer of a resident; authorizing certain persons to apply for a certain determination from the Medical Assistance Program; requiring the Medical Assistance Program to make a certain determination under certain circumstances; authorizing certain facilities to petition a certain court for certain orders under certain circumstances; specifying that a related institution shall comply with certain requirements before involuntarily discharging or transferring a resident; prohibiting certain related institutions from including certain provisions in admissions contracts; requiring a resident's next of kin or legal representative to cooperate and assist in the discharge planning process under certain circumstances; specifying that the Attorney General is responsible for the enforcement of certain provisions and certain persons may request certain injunctive relief under certain circumstances; creating and altering certain penalty provisions; altering certain definitions; and generally relating to residents in related institutions.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article - Health - General

Section 19-344(c), 19-345, and 19-346(a)(2), (n)(1), and (o)

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1990 Replacement Volume and 1994 Supplement)

BY adding to

Article - Health - General

Section 19-345.1 through 19-345.3

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1990 Replacement Volume and 1994 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article 27 - Crimes and Punishments

Section 35D

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1992 Replacement Volume and 1994 Supplement)

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

**Article - Health - General**

19-344.

(c) (1) In this subsection "agent" means a person who manages, uses, or controls the funds or assets that legally may be used to pay the applicant's OR RESIDENT'S share of [the] costs or other charges [not covered by the medical assistance program] FOR THE FACILITY'S SERVICES.