

a period of 3 years and, at the end of June 30, 2002, with no further action required by the General Assembly, Sections 1 and 4 of this Act shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.

SECTION 8. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, except as provided in Sections 6 and 7 of this Act, this Act shall take effect October 1, 1999.

Approved May 13, 1999.

CHAPTER 383

(House Bill 791)

AN ACT concerning

**Nursing Facilities—Licensure Requirements—Staffing
Task Force on Staffing Requirements in Nursing Facilities
Nursing Facilities - Maryland Medical Assistance Program - Reserved Beds -
Task Force on Quality of Care in Nursing Facilities - Nursing Home
Comparative Evaluation System**

FOR the purpose of requiring nursing facilities to meet certain staffing requirements to qualify for licensure; requiring nursing facilities to employ certain individuals for certain positions; specifying certain duties that certain individuals may not perform; specifying the staffing to resident ratio requirements for nursing facilities; requiring nursing facilities to post certain information in certain areas of the facility on a certain form developed by the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene; providing for certain penalties; providing for the application of this Act; requiring the Department to conduct a certain study and to report to the General Assembly by a certain date; authorizing the Department to adopt certain regulations; defining a certain term; and generally relating to staffing requirements for nursing facilities establishing a Task Force on Staffing Requirements in Nursing Facilities to examine certain staffing requirements in nursing facilities; requiring the Task Force to submit a certain report on or before a certain date; providing for the membership of the Task Force; requiring the Governor to appoint the Chairman of the Task Force; requiring the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene to staff the Task Force; providing that a member of the Task Force may not be compensated but may receive travel expenses; providing for the termination date of the Task Force; and generally relating to a Task Force to examine the staffing requirements in nursing facilities; providing that certain payments to nursing facilities for reserving beds for Maryland Medical Assistance Program recipients may not include payment for certain nursing services; repealing the requirement that certain payments to nursing facilities for reserving beds for Program recipients may not be less than a certain amount; requiring that savings resulting from certain provisions of this Act be used for a certain purpose; establishing a Task Force on Quality of Care in Nursing Facilities; specifying the membership of the Task Force; specifying the duties of the Task Force; requiring the Task Force to make certain