

(MEA), shall provide a report by November 1 of each year to the budget committees describing the State's efforts to coordinate the purchase of electricity for all State agencies, including institutions of higher education. The report should include (1) the strategies that will be used to purchase the best electric service at the lowest cost; and (2) the efforts that DGS and MEA will employ to annually evaluate whether State agencies are continuing to receive the best electric service at the lowest cost. No State agency shall purchase electricity in the State's competitive electric utility market until DGS and MEA can ensure that that purchase is consistent with DGS and MEA's strategy for purchase. The University of Maryland, College Park Energy Project, which has entered into a 20-year contract for generation of electricity, shall be exempt from the DGS report and competitive purchase requirements.

SECTION 37. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That it is the intent of the General Assembly to work toward improving the effectiveness of substance abuse treatment in the State of Maryland. The system is complex because of the involvement of many State agencies and private organizations. To improve the system, the General Assembly needs more information on how the current treatment system is structured. Therefore, the Subcabinet and the Cabinet Council on Criminal and Juvenile Justice shall submit a report to the General Assembly by September 1, 2000 that addresses the following issues:

(1) The need for substance abuse treatment. To develop state wide policies, it is necessary to understand the level of substance abuse, type of substance abuse, availability of treatment, and need for financial assistance in each jurisdiction.

(2) The availability of substance abuse treatment programs. Expansion of treatment services could require building infrastructure in the provider community. The report shall address the level of available treatment for each agency and population.

(3) The allocation of treatment among populations. There are a number of populations that are in need of substance abuse treatment. These populations include, but are not limited to women with children, pregnant women, adult criminal justice clients, juvenile criminal justice clients, welfare recipients, medical assistance clients, and adolescents. The report shall include the number of treatment slots allocated to different populations in all agencies' programs as well as the number of treatment slots funded by each agency.

(4) The effectiveness of treatment modalities. Evaluations of long term effectiveness should be a factor in determining the allocation of resources. The report shall identify existing research on long term outcomes in the State of Maryland, plans for future research on long term outcomes, and how research from other states, such as California, may be used to evaluate Maryland programs.

(5) The improvement required in the coordination assessment, referral and case management system among agencies. Improvements are needed to create an effective system.