

(4) (3) THE SECRETARY SHALL ESTABLISH AND SUBMIT A BUDGET FOR MINIMUM STAFFING RATIOS FOR THE OMBUDSMAN PROGRAM AT THE HIGHER OF:

- (I) ONE FULL-TIME OMBUDSMAN PER 1,000 LONG-TERM CARE BEDS;
 - (II) 20 HOURS OF OMBUDSMAN TIME PER WEEK PER AREA AGENCY;
- OR
- (III) 10 HOURS OF OMBUDSMAN TIME PER WEEK PER NURSING HOME.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2000.

Approved May 11, 2000.

CHAPTER 215

(Senate Bill 688)

AN ACT concerning

Nursing Homes - Quality of Care - Inspections

FOR the purpose of requiring the Office of Health Care Quality in the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene to make a site visit and a full survey of each licensed nursing home at least a certain number of times per year; exempting certain nursing homes from certain site visits and surveys under certain circumstances; requiring all surveys to be unannounced; and generally relating to inspections of nursing homes.

BY adding to

Article - Health - General

Section 19-1410 to be under the amended subtitle "Subtitle 14. Nursing Homes"

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1996 Replacement Volume and 1999 Supplement)

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