GOVERNMENT ARTICLE, TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY IN AN INTERIM REPORT WITHIN 6 MONTHS OF BEING APPOINTED AND IN AN ANNUAL REPORT ON JANUARY 1 OF EACH YEAR.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act is an emergency measure, is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public health and safety, has been passed by a yea and nay vote supported by three—fifths of all the members elected to each of the two Houses of the General Assembly, and shall take effect from the date it is enacted. It shall remain effective until the end of December 1, 2005, at which time, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this Act shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.

Approved May 11, 2000.

CHAPTER 258

(House Bill 363)

AN ACT concerning

Statewide Commission on the Crisis in Nursing

FOR the purpose of creating the Statewide Commission on the Crisis in Nursing; providing for the membership, leadership, charge, eompensation and reimbursement, and staffing of the Commission; establishing certain subcommittees for certain purposes; requiring the Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene to convene a certain summit on the crisis in nursing; making this Act an emergency measure; providing for the termination of this Act; and generally relating to the Statewide Commission on the Crisis in Nursing.

BY adding to

Article – Health Occupations

Section 8-7B-01 to be under the new subtitle "Subtitle 7B. Statewide Commission on the Crisis in Nursing"

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1994 Replacement Volume and 1999 Supplement)

Preamble

WHEREAS, In Maryland, and across the country, concerns about an increasing nursing shortage continue to grow; and

WHEREAS, A number of factors contribute to the growing shortages in qualified nursing personnel; and

WHEREAS, The way care is delivered has changed dramatically over the last decade with more people being treated in outpatient settings, shorter and more intense lengths of stay in acute and long-term care settings, and the development of alternatives to nursing home care; and