

CHAPTER 519

(Senate Bill 328)

AN ACT concerning

~~Task Force on Discrimination in Health Care Credentialing Decisions~~

Health Care Credentialing Study

FOR the purpose of ~~establishing a Task Force on Discrimination in Health Care Credentialing Decisions; establishing the membership of the Task Force; establishing duties of the Task Force; requiring the Task Force to submit to the Governor, the General Assembly, and the Legislative Policy Committee a final report on its findings and recommendations~~ requiring a study on credentialing of health care professionals by a certain institution; requiring a report to the Governor and General Assembly before a certain date, including findings and recommendations; providing for funding of the study; providing for the termination of this Act; and generally relating to physicians, nurse anesthetists, nurse midwives, and social workers and credentialing decisions regarding physicians, nurse anesthetists, nurse midwives, and social workers.

BY adding to

Article ~~Health Occupations~~

Section ~~14-500~~

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1994 Replacement Volume and 1999 Supplement)

Preamble

WHEREAS, ~~Over the last few years, there has been an increase in the number of women, people of color, and other minorities who are practicing physicians; and~~

WHEREAS, ~~There is evidence that the decisions of credentialing organizations have adversely affected women, people of color, and other minorities; and~~

WHEREAS, Credentialing organizations have a profound impact upon the ability of all physicians, including physicians who are women, people of color, and minorities, to practice medicine; and

WHEREAS, Credentialing organizations have a profound impact on the ability of nurse anesthetists, nurse midwives, and social workers to practice their professions; and

WHEREAS, There has been an increase in the number of bills introduced in the General Assembly annually relating to credentialing by hospitals of health care professionals; and

WHEREAS, The General Assembly would be assisted by a study in developing legislation to address credentialing issues; and