

SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That nothing in this Act may be construed to reduce or otherwise affect the annual appropriation to the Tri-County Council for Southern Maryland, including any revenues that may be derived from non-State sources.

SECTION 4. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That it is the intent of the General Assembly that the Governor include in the annual State budget funds for the Forvm for Rural Maryland in an amount equivalent to the Forvm's federal funding.

SECTION 4. 5. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2000. It shall remain effective for a period of 4 years and, at the end of June 30, 2004, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this Act shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.

Approved May 18, 2000.

CHAPTER 553

(Senate Bill 684)

AN ACT concerning

Health - General - Advance Directives

FOR the purpose of requiring documentation of the substance of oral advance directives; requiring certain ~~actions and~~ documentation when accepting oral revocations of advance directives; and generally relating to oral advance directives.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article - Health - General

Section 5-602 and 5-604

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1994 Replacement Volume and 1999 Supplement)

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

Article - Health - General

5-602.

(a) Any competent individual may, at any time, make a written advance directive regarding the provision of health care to that individual, or the withholding or withdrawal of health care from that individual.

(b) (1) Any competent individual may, at any time, make a written advance directive appointing an agent to make health care decisions for the individual under the circumstances stated in the advance directive.