

(F) "LOCAL HEALTH PLANNING AGENCY" MEANS THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT OF A JURISDICTION OR A BODY DESIGNATED BY THE LOCAL HEALTH DEPARTMENT TO PERFORM HEALTH PLANNING FUNCTIONS.

[(f)] (G) "Medical examiner" means:

- (1) The Chief Medical Examiner;
- (2) The Deputy Chief Medical Examiner;
- (3) Any assistant medical examiner; or
- (4) Any deputy medical examiner.

[(g)] (H) "Person" means an individual, receiver, trustee, guardian, personal representative, fiduciary, or representative of any kind and any partnership, firm, association, corporation, or other entity.

[(h)] (I) "Physician" means an individual who is authorized under the Maryland Medical Practice Act to practice medicine in this State.

[(i)] (J) "Secretary" means the Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene.

[(j)] (K) "State" means:

- (1) A state, possession, or territory of the United States;
- (2) The District of Columbia; or
- (3) The Commonwealth of Puerto Rico.

2-105.

(a) The Secretary shall establish general policy for, and adopt standards to promote and guide the development of, the physical and mental hygiene services of this State and its subdivisions.

(b) The Secretary is responsible for the health interests of the people of this State and shall supervise generally the administration of the health laws of this State and its subdivisions.

(C) THE SECRETARY SHALL ADOPT AND REVISE AS NECESSARY A STATE HEALTH IMPROVEMENT PLAN THAT INCLUDES THE FOLLOWING:

(1) A DESCRIPTION OF THE COMPONENTS THAT SHOULD COMPRISE THE HEALTH CARE SYSTEM;

(2) THE GOALS AND POLICIES FOR MARYLAND'S HEALTH CARE SYSTEM;

(3) IDENTIFICATION OF UNMET NEEDS AND EXCESS SERVICES FOR FACILITIES AND SERVICES NOT REGULATED BY THE CERTIFICATE OF NEED PROGRAM; AND

(4) AN ASSESSMENT OF THE FINANCIAL RESOURCES REQUIRED AND AVAILABLE FOR THE HEALTH CARE SYSTEM.