

1. the State of Maryland has been a national pioneer in the development of emergency medical services, and has developed one of the premier emergency medical services systems in the world through the cooperation of prehospital care providers, including police department personnel and volunteer and career firefighters and emergency medical service providers, hospital administrators, physicians, nurses, government officials, and other emergency personnel;

2. a necessary component of Maryland's Emergency Medical Services System is the network of regional trauma centers that participate in the system but do not receive funding under the Emergency Medical System Operations Fund (EMSOF); and

3. while other components of the State's Emergency Medical Services System have been studied by the General Assembly in the past, the General Assembly has not studied the potential funding needs of the network of trauma centers participating in the State's Emergency Medical Services System that do not receive funding under EMSOF.

(b) It is the intent of the General Assembly to establish a Panel to study the potential funding needs of the network of trauma centers participating in the State's Emergency Medical Services System that do not receive funding under EMSOF.

(c) There is a Panel to study the potential funding needs of the network of trauma centers participating in the State's Emergency Medical Services System that do not receive funding under EMSOF.

(d) The Panel shall consist of the following 15 members:

1. three members of the Senate, appointed by the President of the Senate as follows:

(i) one member from the Budget and Taxation Committee;

(ii) one member from the Finance Committee; and

(iii) one member from the Judicial Proceedings Committee;

2. three members of the House of Delegates, appointed by the Speaker of the House as follows:

(i) one member from the Appropriations Committee;

(ii) one member from the Commerce and Government Matters Committee; and

(iii) one member from the Environmental Matters Committee;

3. the Secretary of the Department of Budget and Management, or the Secretary's designee;

4. the Secretary of the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, or the Secretary's designee;