

Medical Society, and interested parties on the implementation of this Act. In implementing the requirements of this Act, the Secretary shall use every attempt to build on existing health and medical disaster preparedness plans.

SECTION 4. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Secretary shall adopt regulations to ensure that any individual subject to isolation or quarantine under the provisions of this Act shall receive appropriate and adequate care which may include daily monitoring of the individual's care, and to the extent feasible, provisions for communication of information and recognition of cultural and religious beliefs.

SECTION 5. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene shall adopt regulations for health care facilities to follow in providing for the needs of pediatric patients, related to:

- (1) staff training needs;
- (2) stockpiling of equipment, medication, and supplies necessary to address a catastrophic health emergency;
- (3) treatment and decontamination protocols; and
- (4) the coordination of services with other public and private entities.

SECTION 6. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That if any provision of this Act or the application thereof to any person or circumstance is held invalid for any reason in a court of competent jurisdiction, the invalidity does not affect other provisions or any other application of this Act which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and for this purpose the provisions of this Act are declared severable.

SECTION 3. 7. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act is an emergency measure, is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public health or 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.

Approved April 9, 2002.

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## CHAPTER 2

(Senate Bill 239)

AN ACT concerning

### Maryland Emergency Management Assistance Compact

FOR the purpose of establishing the Maryland Emergency Management Assistance Compact; authorizing certain jurisdictions to adopt the Compact for the purpose of providing intrastate mutual aid between jurisdictions in Maryland during an emergency; authorizing member jurisdictions to request assistance under the terms of the Compact; providing for certain limitations, liability, supplementary