

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

Article - Health - General

1-101.

- (a) In this article the following words have the meanings indicated.
- (c) "Department" means the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene.

SUBTITLE 16. OSTEOPOROSIS PREVENTION AND EDUCATION ~~PROGRAM~~ TASK FORCE.

13-1601.

IN THIS SUBTITLE, "OSTEOPOROSIS" MEANS A BONE DISEASE CHARACTERIZED BY A REDUCTION IN BONE DENSITY ACCOMPANIED BY INCREASING POROSITY AND BRITTLINESS AND ASSOCIATED WITH LOSS OF CALCIUM FROM THE BONES.

13-1602.

~~THE PURPOSES OF THIS SUBTITLE ARE TO:~~

~~(1) CREATE AND FOSTER A MULTIGENERATIONAL, STATEWIDE PROGRAM TO PROMOTE PUBLIC AWARENESS AND KNOWLEDGE ABOUT THE CAUSES OF OSTEOPOROSIS, PERSONAL RISK FACTORS, THE VALUE OF PREVENTION AND EARLY DETECTION, AND THE OPTIONS AVAILABLE FOR TREATMENT;~~

~~(2) FACILITATE AND ENHANCE KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING OF OSTEOPOROSIS BY DISSEMINATING EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS, INFORMATION ABOUT RESEARCH RESULTS, SERVICES, AND STRATEGIES FOR PREVENTION AND TREATMENT TO PATIENTS, HEALTH PROFESSIONALS, AND THE PUBLIC;~~

~~(3) UTILIZE EDUCATIONAL AND TRAINING RESOURCES AND SERVICES THAT HAVE BEEN DEVELOPED BY ORGANIZATIONS WITH APPROPRIATE EXPERTISE AND KNOWLEDGE OF OSTEOPOROSIS AND TO USE AVAILABLE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE;~~

~~(4) EVALUATE EXISTING OSTEOPOROSIS SERVICES IN THE COMMUNITY AND ASSESS THE NEED FOR IMPROVING THE QUALITY AND ACCESSIBILITY OF COMMUNITY BASED SERVICES;~~

~~(5) PROVIDE EASY ACCESS TO CLEAR, COMPLETE, AND ACCURATE OSTEOPOROSIS INFORMATION AND REFERRAL SERVICES;~~

~~(6) EDUCATE AND TRAIN SERVICE PROVIDERS, HEALTH PROFESSIONALS, AND PHYSICIANS;~~

~~(7) HEIGHTEN AWARENESS ABOUT THE PREVENTION, DETECTION, AND TREATMENT OF OSTEOPOROSIS AMONG STATE AND LOCAL HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICE OFFICIALS, HEALTH EDUCATORS, AND POLICY MAKERS;~~