

(3) its schedule for bringing Maryland's fee-for-service reimbursement rates to a level that assures that all health care providers are reimbursed adequately to provide access to care; and

(4) an analysis on the estimated costs of implementing the schedule and any proposed changes to the fee-for-service reimbursement rates for the Maryland Medical Assistance Program and the Maryland Children's Health Program.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That:

~~(a) The Department of Health and Mental Hygiene shall establish a process to annually set the fee for service reimbursement rates for the public mental health system in a manner that ensures participation of providers.~~

~~(b) In determining the rates for outpatient mental health clinics, the Department shall consider the Medicare allowable charges for comparable CPT Codes.~~

~~(c) In determining the rates for public mental health system services having no Medicare CPT Code equivalent, the Department shall consider the reasonable costs of and the Medicare Principles of Reimbursement for relevant factors, including:~~

- ~~(1) staffing;~~
- ~~(2) overhead;~~
- ~~(3) capital needs; and~~
- ~~(4) annual medical inflation.~~

*(a) The Department of Health and Mental Hygiene shall establish a process to annually set the fee-for-service reimbursement rates for the public mental health system in a manner that ensures participation of providers.*

*(b) In determining the rates for outpatient mental health clinics, the Department shall consider the Medicare-allowable charges for comparable CPT Codes.*

*(c) In determining the rates for public mental health system services having no Medicare CPT Code equivalent, the Department shall consider the reasonable costs of and the Medicare Principles of Reimbursement for relevant factors, including:*

- (1) staffing;*
- (2) overhead;*
- (3) capital needs; and*
- (4) annual medical inflation.*

*(d) On or before September 1 of each year, the Department shall report to the Governor, and in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, the Senate Finance Committee, the Senate Budget and Taxation Committee, the House Environmental Matters Committee, and the House Appropriations Committee on:*