

(3) a review of industry-supplied surveys concerning the time and associated costs of dispensing.

(f) The Department of Health and Mental Hygiene may implement measures to encourage the use of medically appropriate generic drugs and those brand name drugs on a preferred drug list, including:

(1) the use of tiered copayments for Medicaid and the Maryland Pharmacy Assistance Program provided that the amounts set for those copayments do not result in an increase in total copayment collections;

(2) the use of differential dispensing fees to pharmacies provided that the amounts set for those dispensing fees remain revenue neutral;

(3) the use of consultation payments to pharmacies, similar to those used in the State Employee Health Benefits Plan, to encourage communication between patients, prescribers, and pharmacists regarding cost-effective drug therapies; and

(4) the implementation of education programs on the use of preferred drugs for prescribers that participate in the Medicaid and Maryland Pharmacy Assistance Programs.

SECTION ~~2-3~~ 4. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2002.

Approved May 16, 2002.

CHAPTER 465

(Senate Bill 486)

AN ACT concerning

DNA Testing - Felony Convictions - DNA Technology Fund - Preservation of Scientific Identification Evidence

FOR the purpose of altering provisions of law relating to DNA testing of certain persons convicted of certain crimes by providing that any person convicted of a felony or certain misdemeanors on or before a certain date shall submit a DNA sample to the Department of State Police; making conforming changes; providing for the application of this Act; establishing a DNA Technology Fund to assist the Department of State Police and local law enforcement agencies in acquiring DNA technology equipment needed for DNA testing; defining certain terms; requiring the Executive Director of the Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention to establish application procedures and administer the grants; requiring the Department of State Police and local law enforcement agencies to provide certain information to the Executive Director; requiring the Executive Director to consider certain criteria in determining the amount of the grants; requiring the Department of State Police and local law enforcement agencies to submit proof of appropriate expenditure; altering the period of time