

or similar document distributed; establishing a State Advisory Council on Pain Management; specifying the membership, terms, and purpose of the Advisory Council; authorizing the Advisory Council to consult with certain individuals ~~or~~ and organization representatives; requiring the Advisory Council to issue certain reports on or before certain dates; ~~requiring certain health care facilities to establish certain procedures for the routine monitoring of patient pain;~~ providing for the termination of a portion of this Act; and generally relating to pain management and a State Advisory Council on Pain Management; ~~and to the monitoring of patient pain by certain health care facilities.~~

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article - Health - General

Section 19-342 and 19-343

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2000 Replacement Volume and 2001 Supplement)

BY adding to

Article - Health - General

Section 19-353; and 13-1601 through 13-1605, inclusive, to be under the new subtitle "Subtitle 16. Advisory Council on Pain Management"; ~~and 19-348.~~

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2000 Replacement Volume and 2001 Supplement)

Preamble

WHEREAS, Estimates indicate that as many as 34 million people nationwide suffer from chronic intractable pain; and

WHEREAS, Experts acknowledge that patients may be victims of inadequate pain management as their needs are not met with proper treatment; and

WHEREAS, Not only is chronic intractable pain a life debilitating condition, it is a costly epidemic facing our nation; and

WHEREAS, The field of medicine is constantly evolving, and continuing education in pain management is essential to ensure a patient is receiving the best care possible; and

WHEREAS, State law and policy could play a role in facilitating effective pain management, thus serving the needs of the citizens of the State; now, therefore,

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

Article - Health - General