

CHAPTER 251

(House Bill 682)

AN ACT concerning

Health Care Decisions Act – Emergency Medical Services “Do Not Resuscitate Orders” – Health Care Providers

FOR the purpose of authorizing certain health care providers to comply with an emergency medical services “do not resuscitate order” under certain circumstances; requiring certain health care providers to comply with an emergency medical services “do not resuscitate order” under certain circumstances; and generally relating to emergency medical services “do not resuscitate orders”.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
Article – Health – General
Section 5–608(a)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2005 Replacement Volume and 2006 Supplement)

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

Article – Health – General

5–608.

(a) (1) Certified or licensed emergency medical services personnel shall be directed by protocol to follow emergency medical services “do not resuscitate orders” pertaining to adult patients in the outpatient setting in accordance with protocols established by the Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services Systems in conjunctions with the State Board of Physicians.

(2) Emergency medical services “do not resuscitate orders” may not authorize the withholding of medical interventions, or therapies deemed necessary to provide comfort care or to alleviate pain.

(3) A health care provider, other than certified or licensed emergency medical services personnel, WHO SEES, IN A VALID FORM, AN EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES “DO NOT RESUSCITATE ORDER” DESCRIBED IN PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION THAT IS NOT SUPERSEDED BY A SUBSEQUENT PHYSICIAN’S ORDER: