Commission to ensure that the Maryland-DC Collaborative addresses certain issues and establishes certain policies and protections; authorizing hospitals to apply to the State Health Services Cost Review Commission for a certain award to provide certain compensation; requiring the Maryland-DC Collaborative to report on its progress to the Maryland Health Care Commission, the State Health Services Cost Review Commission, and certain legislative committees on or before certain dates; providing for the termination of this Act; and generally relating to a health information exchange pilot project.

## BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments, adding to

Article – Health – General Section <del>19–2201(a)</del> <u>19–209</u> Annotated Code of Maryland (2005 Replacement Volume and 2006 Supplement)

## BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article - Health - General Section 19 - 2201(e) and (f) Annotated Code of Maryland (2005 Replacement Volume and 2006 Supplement)

## Preamble

WHEREAS, Continuously improving the quality, safety, and cost-effectiveness of health care is one of the most significant public policy questions facing government; and

WHEREAS, Lack of information regarding previous medical care can lead to unnecessary duplication of services and inaccurate decisions regarding current medical care; and

WHEREAS, Unnecessary duplication of services and inaccurate decisions regarding medical care can lead to harm to patients, higher medical malpractice costs, and higher health care costs; and

WHEREAS, Sharing information among health care providers is in the public interest and can lead to a reduction in medical errors and duplicative services, which will improve patient safety, quality of care, and affordability of health care; and

WHEREAS, The Maryland/D.C. Collaborative for Healthcare Information Technology has engineered a solution that will enable information regarding previous care to be available at the time of current care using a ubiquitous statewide web portal; and