

~~WHEREAS, Developing this infrastructure requires careful planning and the involvement of key stakeholders; and~~

~~WHEREAS, The Maryland/D.C. Collaborative for Healthcare Information Technology has brought together representatives of key stakeholders and has concluded the careful planning needed for a regional health data exchange infrastructure; and~~

~~WHEREAS, The Maryland/D.C. Collaborative for Healthcare Information Technology has secured matching funding from its own members for the implementation of a regional health data exchange and has developed a long term sustainable financial model; and~~

~~WHEREAS, The Maryland/D.C. Collaborative for Healthcare Information Technology needs additional funding to establish the long term viability of a regional health data exchange network; and~~

~~WHEREAS, The State of Maryland has an "all-payer" Health Services Cost Review Commission that promotes quality, safety, and cost efficiency to the citizens of the State; and~~

~~WHEREAS, The long term savings for the health care system from a successful regional health data exchange infrastructure would make health care coverage more affordable for all Marylanders and help reduce the cost of uncompensated care; and~~

~~WHEREAS, Chapter 291 of the Acts of 2005 established the Task Force to Study Electronic Health Records; and~~

~~WHEREAS, A regional health data exchange will carry forward the momentum created by the Task Force to Study Electronic Health Records; now, therefore,~~

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

Article - Health - General

~~19-2201.~~

~~(a) In this section, "Fund" means the Community Health Resources Commission Fund.~~

~~(e) (1) The Fund may be used only to:~~

~~(i) Cover the administrative costs of the Commission;~~