CHAPTER 528

(House Bill 30)

AN ACT concerning

Oral Health Safety Net Program

FOR the purpose of establishing the Oral Health Safety Net Program in the Office of Oral Health in the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene; providing for the purpose of the Program; requiring the Office to solicit certain proposals; and requiring the Office to award certain grants and oversee the operation of the Program, subject to the limitations of the State budget; requiring the Office to oversee the operation of the Program; requiring the Office to conduct a certain annual evaluation of the Program; requiring the Office to contract with a certain individual, subject to the limitations of the State budget; requiring the Office to provide certain education courses, subject to the limitations of the State budget; requiring the Office to submit a certain report to the Governor and to the General Assembly on or before a certain date each year; declaring the intent of the General Assembly; requiring the Department to conduct a certain survey; requiring the Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene to submit a certain report to the General Assembly on a certain date; defining a certain term; providing for the termination of this Act; and generally relating to oral health for underserved populations in the State.

BY adding to

Article - Health - General

Section 13-2501 through 13-2506, inclusive, to be under the new subtitle "Subtitle 25. Oral Health Safety Net Program"

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2005 Replacement Volume and 2006 Supplement)

Preamble

WHEREAS, While almost 44% of HealthChoice recipients make at least one dental visit each year, only 14% of HealthChoice recipients receive restorative dental care; and

WHEREAS, Restorative treatment services should be increased to better accommodate the needs of the HealthChoice population and other underserved populations; now, therefore,

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