

SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Health Services Cost Review Commission, in consultation with the Maryland Hospital Association, shall:

(1) study alternatives to the annual update factor as restrictions on increases in the Commission's budget that would:

(i) ensure that Commission user-fee increases are reasonable;
and

(ii) allow adequate budget growth for the Commission; and

(2) report on recommended alternatives, on or before November 1, 2007, to the Senate Finance Committee, and the House Health and Government Operations Committee, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State Government Article.

SECTION 4. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Health Services Cost Review Commission shall report to the Senate Finance Committee, and the House Health and Government Operations Committee, on or before November 1, 2007, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, on the implementation of the plan of the Commission to spend down the balance in the Commission Fund to ten percent of total annual costs by the end of fiscal 2007.

SECTION 5. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Health Services Cost Review Commission, the Maryland Health Care Commission, and the Community Health Resources Commission shall:

(1) determine how to clarify the appropriate role for each commission in assessing the underlying causes of uncompensated care and making recommendations to the General Assembly on how to address uncompensated care; and

(2) report on their determinations to the Senate Finance Committee and the House Health and Government Operations Committee on or before December 1, 2007, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State Government Article.

SECTION 6. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Health Services Cost Review Commission shall report to the Senate Finance Committee and the House Health and Government Operations Committee on or before October 1, 2008, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, on the implementation of the nonstatutory recommendations of the Department of Legislative Services contained in the sunset evaluation report dated October 2006.

SECTION 7. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2007.