<u>final</u>; making this Act an emergency measure; and generally relating to the Medical Assistance and Pharmacy Assistance, and Prenatal Assistance Programs.

BY adding to

Article - Health - General

Section 15-401 through 15-403 15-404 to be under the new subtitle "Subtitle 4. Medical Assistance and, Pharmacy Assistance, and Prenatal Assistance

Provider Fees"
Annotated Code of Maryland

(1990 Replacement Volume and 1990 Supplement)

Preamble

WHEREAS, Income and sales tax revenues have fallen in Maryland, requiring the State to find alternate sources of funding in order to maintain the State's current level of programs and services; and

WHEREAS, The State of Maryland believes that Medicaid and Pharmacy Assistance providers should contribute a portion of the State's share of Medicaid expenditures; and

WHEREAS, The significant recent increases in enrollment in the Aid to Families With Dependent Children Program and the expansions in coverage and eligibility mandated by the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Acts of 1989 and 1990 have increased Maryland Medicaid expenditures by tens of millions of dollars; and

WHEREAS, The Congress of the United States enacted § 4701 of the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1990, P.L. 101–508, which amended § 1902 of the Social Security Act and which authorizes state Medicaid agencies to use taxes imposed on Medicaid providers with respect to the provision of services and items as part of the state share; and

WHEREAS, Because of the complexity of Medicaid law and the scope of Medicaid programs, State and federal Medicaid laws governing provider reimbursement, the General Assembly has established specific guidelines to be applied by the State department which administers the Medical Assistance Program is in the best position to determine in establishing which provider groups should be charged and the amount of the fees; now, therefore,

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

Article - Health - General

SUBTITLE 4. MEDICAL ASSISTANCE AND, PHARMACY ASSISTANCE, AND PRENATAL ASSISTANCE PROVIDER FEES

15-401.

(A) IN THIS SUBTITLE THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS INDICATED.