

defining a certain term; and generally relating to enforcing the rights of certain individuals.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article - Health - General

Section ~~10-504~~ and 19-309(b)

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1990 Replacement Volume and 1990 Supplement)

BY adding to

Article - Health - General

Section ~~19-319(h)~~ 19-319.2

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1990 Replacement Volume and 1990 Supplement)

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

**Article - Health - General**

~~10-504.~~

~~To qualify for a license, an applicant shall:~~

~~(1) COMPLY WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF §§ 10-701, 10-702, 10-703, 10-704, 10-706, 10-707, 10-708, AND 10-709 OF THIS TITLE; AND~~

~~{{(1)} (2) (I) Have a certificate of accreditation from the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Hospitals for the private inpatient facility to be operated; or~~

~~{{(2)} (II) Meet the requirements that the Secretary adopts under this subtitle.~~

19-309.

(b) (1) To resolve expeditiously a complaint that alleges the existence of any nonlife-threatening deficiency, the Department shall refer the complaint directly to the hospital.

(2) If appropriate, issues relating to the practice of medicine or the licensure or conduct of a health professional shall be referred to the hospital and may be referred to the appropriate licensure board for resolution.

(3) If the Department determines that the hospital has not satisfactorily addressed the referred complaint or where the complaint alleges the existence of a life threatening deficiency, the Department shall conduct an independent investigation. When conducting its independent investigation, the Department shall use: