

WHEREAS, Continuation of the mission of the Center to make comprehensive rehabilitation services available to all the citizens of Maryland requires prudent fiscal management by the University of Maryland Medical System Corporation and State support of the uncompensated care provided at the Center; and

WHEREAS, Making a rehabilitation hospital part of the University of Maryland Medical System Corporation makes sense as good patient management, because of the high percentage of referrals that Montebello Center already receives from both University Hospital and the Shock Trauma Center and Montebello Center's existing commitment to trauma-based injuries - particularly those of the head and spinal cord - and the need to provide continuing rehabilitative care for those severely injured patients leaving the Shock Trauma Center; and

WHEREAS, It is both fiscally and therapeutically desirable for the State of Maryland to separate the operations, revenues, and obligations of the Montebello Center from the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene and join them with an institution that is, to the maximum extent possible, a self-supporting entity eligible to receive grants or to contract with the State as deemed appropriate and necessary for the best fiscal management and patient care: now, therefore,

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

**Article 64A - Merit System**

48B.

(a) As used in this section, the following terms have the meanings indicated:

(1) "Beneficiary" means:

(ii) A former employee of the University of Maryland Medical System Corporation AS DEFINED IN §§ 13-1B-01 AND 13-1C-01 OF THE EDUCATION ARTICLE who receives a retirement allowance from the Employees' Retirement System or the Pension System for the Employees of the State of Maryland under the provisions of Article 73B, [§§ 163 through 170] §§ 10-101 THROUGH 10-109, inclusive.

(4) "State service" means:

(ii) Service as an employee of the University of Maryland Medical System Corporation AS DEFINED IN §§ 13-1B-01 AND 13-1C-01 OF THE EDUCATION ARTICLE while a member of the Employees' Retirement System or the Pension System for the Employees of the State of Maryland under the provisions of Article 73B, [§§ 163 through 170] §§ 10-101 THROUGH 10-109, inclusive.

**Article 73B - Pensions**

10-101.

(e) (3) To participate in the Employees' Retirement System or the Pension System for Employees of the State of Maryland, the following entities shall be considered to be a municipal corporation: