

(5) MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS WITH RESPECT TO IMPROVING OUTREACH TO VETERANS AND THEIR FAMILIES IN NEED OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES;

(6) PROMOTE FEDERAL AND STATE COLLABORATION TO MAXIMIZE FUNDING AND ACCESS TO RESOURCES FOR THE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH NEEDS OF VETERANS AND THEIR FAMILIES;

(7) MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS WITH RESPECT TO BUILDING PROVIDER CAPACITY AND INCREASING PROVIDER TRAINING TO MEET THE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH NEEDS OF VETERANS AND THEIR FAMILIES; ~~AND~~

(8) MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS WITH RESPECT TO IMPROVING THE COORDINATION OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES FOR VETERANS AND THEIR FAMILIES; AND

(9) MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS ON METHODS TO PROVIDE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES TO INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE NOT ELIGIBLE FOR BENEFITS FROM THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS DUE TO A DISHONORABLE DISCHARGE OR RELEASE FOR A REASON RELATING TO SUBSTANCE ABUSE OR MENTAL ILLNESS.

(I) THE ADVISORY BOARD SHALL SUBMIT AN INTERIM REPORT OF ITS FINDINGS ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 1, 2009, AND A FINAL REPORT OF ITS FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 1, 2010, TO THE GOVERNOR AND, SUBJECT TO § 2-1246 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE, THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That:

(a) On or before September 1, 2008, the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, in conjunction with the Veterans Behavioral Health Advisory Board established under Section 1 of this Act, shall submit a grant application to the United States Department of Veterans Affairs or other appropriate federal agency for a minimum of \$3,500,000 in federal funds in fiscal year 2010 and a minimum of \$3,500,000 in federal funds in fiscal year 2011 to support the provision of behavioral health services to veterans under this Act.

(b) The Department shall send a copy of the application required under this section to the members of the Maryland Congressional Delegation and, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, the Senate Budget and Taxation Committee, the Senate Finance Committee, the House Appropriations Committee, and the House Health and Government Operations Committee.