

CHAPTER 614

(House Bill 1452)

AN ACT concerning

Medical Assistance Program – Long-Term Care Eligibility – Consolidation Plan

FOR the purpose of requiring the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene and the Department of Human Resources, in consultation with certain groups, to develop a certain plan; requiring the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene and the Department of Human Resources to submit a certain report to the Governor and the General Assembly on or before a certain date; and generally relating to the Medical Assistance Program and eligibility for long-term care services.

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That:

(a) (1) The Department of Health and Mental Hygiene and the Department of Human Resources, in consultation with LifeSpan Network and the Health Facilities Association of Maryland, shall develop a plan to integrate the functions necessary for the determination of Medical Assistance Program eligibility for long-term care services.

(2) The plan conducted under paragraph (1) of this subsection shall:

(i) transfer the workforce employed by the Department of Human Resources, including the local departments of social services, who determine long-term care Medical Assistance Program eligibility to the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene;

(ii) create uniform procedures, guidelines, and forms to be utilized by all employees in the determination of long-term care Medical Assistance Program eligibility; ~~and~~

(iii) streamline regulations, policies, and procedures related to the application for long-term care Medical Assistance Program services, including considering whether the face-to-face interview required under § 10.09.24.04 of the Code of Maryland Regulations should be eliminated for long-term care eligibility determinations; and