

~~help to establish medical or health care services in a certain underserved area; clarifying that if the proposals considered or adopted by the Secretary are not feasible or successful to assure the public health of an identified underserved area of the State, the Secretary may provide the~~ authorizing the Secretary to provide needed health care facilities, staff, or services by entering into certain contracts or approving, to facilitate the provision of State health care services to the underserved area, approve contracts with certain public or private health care entities that facilitate the provision of State health care services to the underserved area; requiring the Secretary to consider market factors that may be contributing to a deficiency in general or specific medical or health care facilities, staff, or services in certain areas of the State; requiring the Secretary to maximize, to the extent feasible, the State's recovery of health care costs and expenses when seeking to ameliorate an identified deficiency in health care facilities, staff, or services; requiring the Secretary to consult with certain commissions and groups under certain circumstances; *providing that this Act may not be construed to have any impact on certain requirements for health care providers and health care facilities;* and generally relating to the powers of the Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene with respect to health care facilities, staff, and services in underserved areas of the State.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
 Article – Health – General
 Section 2-108
 Annotated Code of Maryland
 (2005 Replacement Volume and 2007 Supplement)

Preamble

WHEREAS, Disparities in the financing and delivery of health care limit the availability of medical and other health care services to certain populations and areas of the State and compromise efforts to assure the public health of those medically underserved populations and areas; and

WHEREAS, It is necessary to clarify the Secretary's authority to utilize a variety of business arrangements that may be necessary to assure the public health and facilitate the flexible and efficient provision of State health care services to those underserved populations and areas; now, therefore,

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

Article – Health – General

2-108.