

HOUSE BILL 91

P1
HB 45/15 – HGO

6lr1674
CF SB 442

By: ~~Delegate Morhaim~~ **Delegates Morhaim, Hammen, Angel, Barron, Bromwell, Cullison, Hayes, Hill, Kelly, Kipke, Krebs, McDonough, McMillan, Miele, Morgan, Oaks, Pena-Melnyk, Pendergrass, Rose, Saab, Sample-Hughes, West, and K. Young**

Introduced and read first time: January 18, 2016
Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments
House action: Adopted
Read second time: March 15, 2016

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **General Provisions – Commemorative Days – National Healthcare Decisions**
3 **Day**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring the Governor annually to proclaim a certain day as National
5 Healthcare Decisions Day; and generally relating to National Healthcare Decisions
6 Day.

7 BY renumbering
8 Article – General Provisions
9 Section 7–405 through 7–416, respectively
10 to be Section 7–406 through 7–417, respectively
11 Annotated Code of Maryland
12 (2014 Volume and 2015 Supplement)

13 BY adding to
14 Article – General Provisions
15 Section 7–405
16 Annotated Code of Maryland
17 (2014 Volume and 2015 Supplement)

18 Preamble

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



1 WHEREAS, Advance directives help people indicate the kind of care they want
2 during a medical crisis or at the end of life; and

3 WHEREAS, Advance directives support individuals and families in receiving
4 humane, personalized health care by respecting an individual's wishes and values; and

5 WHEREAS, The use of advance directives often leads to reduced health care costs
6 by avoiding unwanted and unnecessary health care expenses; and

7 WHEREAS, Advance directive forms are free, legal, readily available, and
8 straightforward; and

9 WHEREAS, Advance directive forms can be obtained online and from the State,
10 health care facilities, and faith-based institutions; and

11 WHEREAS, Only about 30% of Marylanders have advance directives; and

12 WHEREAS, The rate of the use of advance directives is lower among those in
13 minority groups, and this is now recognized as a minority health disparity; and

14 WHEREAS, Educational and public information programs can help increase the rate
15 of use of advance directives; now, therefore,

16 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
17 That Section(s) 7-405 through 7-416, respectively, of Article – General Provisions of the
18 Annotated Code of Maryland be renumbered to be Section(s) 7-406 through 7-417,
19 respectively.

20 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Laws of Maryland read
21 as follows:

22 **Article – General Provisions**

23 **7-405.**

24 **THE GOVERNOR ANNUALLY SHALL PROCLAIM APRIL 16 AS NATIONAL**
25 **HEALTHCARE DECISIONS DAY.**

26 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
27 October 1, 2016.