

SENATE BILL 442

P1

6lr2131
CF HB 91

By: **Senators Manno, Guzzone, Lee, Madaleno, and Raskin**

Introduced and read first time: February 1, 2016

Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

Committee Report: Favorable

Senate action: Adopted

Read second time: March 31, 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

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

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 support individuals and families in receiving
2 humane, personalized health care by respecting an individual's wishes and values; and

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

5 WHEREAS, Advance directive forms are free, legal, readily available, and
6 straightforward; and

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

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

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

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

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

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

20 **Article – General Provisions**

21 **7-405.**

22 **THE GOVERNOR ANNUALLY SHALL PROCLAIM APRIL 16 AS NATIONAL**
23 **HEALTHCARE DECISIONS DAY.**

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