

# SENATE BILL 187

J1, J2

5lr1041

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By: **Senators Pugh, Conway, Currie, Guzzone, King, Lee, Mathias, Montgomery, Muse, and Nathan-Pulliam**

Introduced and read first time: February 2, 2015

Assigned to: Finance

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Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

Senate action: Adopted

Read second time: March 13, 2015

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## CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

1 AN ACT concerning

2 ~~Governor's Workforce Investment Board~~ **Workgroup to Study Access to**  
3 **Obstetric Services**

4 FOR the purpose of ~~requiring~~ authorizing the ~~Governor's Workforce Investment Board to~~  
5 ~~coordinate~~ Maryland Hospital Association, in consultation with the Secretary of  
6 Health and Mental Hygiene, health occupations boards, the Governor's Workforce  
7 Investment Board, and certain other entities and parties, to establish a workgroup  
8 to study access to obstetric services in the State ~~by developing;~~ requiring the  
9 workgroup to develop a certain mechanism to evaluate certain factors and to make  
10 certain recommendations; requiring the workgroup to report to the Governor and  
11 certain committees of the General Assembly on or before a certain date ~~each year;~~  
12 and generally relating to ~~the Governor's Workforce Investment Board and~~ a  
13 workgroup to study access to obstetric services.

14 ~~By adding to~~  
15 ~~Article Labor and Employment~~  
16 ~~Section 11-505.2~~  
17 ~~Annotated Code of Maryland~~  
18 ~~(2008 Replacement Volume and 2014 Supplement)~~

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

21 ~~Article Labor and Employment~~

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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 ~~11-505.2.~~

2 ~~(A) THE GOVERNOR'S WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD SHALL~~  
 3 ~~COORDINATE WITH THE SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND MENTAL HYGIENE, THE~~  
 4 ~~HEALTH OCCUPATIONS BOARDS, AND OTHER PARTIES AS DETERMINED~~  
 5 ~~APPROPRIATE BY THE BOARD TO ESTABLISH A WORKGROUP TO STUDY ACCESS TO~~  
 6 ~~OBSTETRIC SERVICES IN THE STATE BY DEVELOPING A COMPREHENSIVE~~  
 7 ~~MECHANISM TO EVALUATE;~~

8 ~~(1) THE NUMBER AND GEOGRAPHIC LOCATIONS OF OBSTETRICAL~~  
 9 ~~HEALTH CARE WORKERS IN THE STATE;~~

10 ~~(2) PRACTICE PATTERNS;~~

11 ~~(3) PROVIDER PREFERENCES; AND~~

12 ~~(4) OTHER FACTORS DETERMINED TO BE RELEVANT BY THE~~  
 13 ~~WORKGROUP.~~

14 ~~(B) ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 1 OF EACH YEAR, THE WORKGROUP SHALL~~  
 15 ~~SUBMIT A REPORT TO THE GOVERNOR AND, IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 2-1246 OF THE~~  
 16 ~~STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE, TO THE SENATE EDUCATION, HEALTH, AND~~  
 17 ~~ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE AND THE HOUSE HEALTH AND~~  
 18 ~~GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS COMMITTEE ON THE FINDINGS OF THE BOARD.~~

19 (a) The Maryland Hospital Association, in consultation with the Secretary of  
 20 Health and Mental Hygiene, the health occupations boards, the Governor's Workforce  
 21 Investment Board, the Medical Mutual Liability Insurance Society of Maryland, the  
 22 Maryland Association for Justice, the Maryland Affiliate of American College of  
 23 Nurse-Midwives, and other parties as determined appropriate by the Maryland Hospital  
 24 Association, may establish a workgroup to study access to obstetric services in the State.

25 (b) The workgroup shall develop a comprehensive mechanism to evaluate:

26 (1) the number and geographic locations of obstetrical health care workers  
 27 in the State;

28 (2) practice patterns;

29 (3) provider preferences; and

30 (4) other factors determined to be relevant by the workgroup.

1           (c)   The workgroup shall make recommendations for enactment of legislation that  
2 would provide incentives to increase the availability of obstetric care services throughout  
3 the State.

4           (d)   On or before December 1, 2015, the workgroup shall submit a report to the  
5 Governor and, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, to the Senate  
6 Finance Committee and the House Health and Government Operations Committee on the  
7 findings and recommendations of the workgroup.

8           SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June  
9 1, 2015.

Approved:

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Governor.

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President of the Senate.

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Speaker of the House of Delegates.