

Chapter 341

(House Bill 675)

AN ACT concerning

Commission to Study Trauma Center Funding in Maryland

FOR the purpose of establishing the Commission to Study Trauma Center Funding in Maryland to study the adequacy of trauma center funding across the State for operating, capital, and workforce costs; and generally relating to the Commission to Study Trauma Center Funding in Maryland.

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

(a) In this section, “MIEMSS” means the Maryland Institute for Emergency Medicine Services Systems.

(b) There is a Commission to Study Trauma Center Funding in Maryland.

(c) The Commission consists of the following members:

(1) one member of the Senate of Maryland, appointed by the President of the Senate;

(2) one member of the House of Delegates, appointed by the Speaker of the House;

(3) the Secretary of Health, or the Secretary’s designee;

(4) the Executive Director of MIEMSS, or the Executive Director’s designee;

(5) the Executive Director of the Maryland Health Care Commission, or the Executive Director’s designee; and

(6) the following members, appointed by the Secretary of Health:

(i) one representative of MIEMSS;

(ii) one representative of the Maryland Trauma Center Network;

(iii) one representative of the Maryland Patient Safety Center;

(iv) one representative of the Health Services Cost Review Commission;

(v) one representative of the Maryland Health Care Commission;

and

(vi) five representatives of trauma centers in the State located in geographically diverse regions, to the extent practicable, including:

1. one representative from a primary adult resource center;
2. one representative from a level I trauma center;
3. one representative from a level II trauma center;
4. one representative from a level III trauma center; and
5. one representative from a pediatric trauma center.

(d) The Executive Director of MIEMSS, or the Executive Director's designee, and the Executive Director of the Maryland Health Care Commission, or the Executive Director's designee, shall be the co-chairs of the Commission.

(e) MIEMSS and the Maryland Health Care Commission jointly shall provide staff for the Commission.

(f) A member of the Commission:

- (1) may not receive compensation as a member of the Commission; but
- (2) is entitled to reimbursement for expenses under the Standard State Travel Regulations, as provided in the State budget.

(g) The Commission shall study the adequacy of trauma center funding across the State for operating, capital, and workforce costs, including:

- (1) current funding sources for trauma centers in the State;
- (2) Maryland Trauma Physician Services Fund expenditures and revenues since its inception;
- (3) statutory and regulatory requirements for trauma centers at the time the Fund was established;
- (4) changes to statutory and regulatory requirements for trauma centers since the Fund was established;

(5) changes in staffing, recruitment, compensation, or other factors that would impact the funding needed to operate a trauma center in the State;

(6) changes to approved uses of the Fund over time;

(7) the amount of funding needed to adequately fund trauma centers in the State;

(8) the funding mechanisms available to adequately fund trauma centers; and

(9) funding criteria that would impact the receipt of funds by existing or new trauma centers.

(h) The Commission shall make findings and recommendations regarding:

(1) changes in staffing, recruitment, compensation, or other factors that would impact the funding needed to operate a trauma center in the State;

(2) changes to approved uses of the Fund over time;

(3) the amount of funding needed to adequately fund trauma centers in the State;

(4) the funding mechanisms available to adequately fund trauma centers; and

(5) funding criteria that would impact the receipt of funds by existing or new trauma centers.

(i) On or before December 1, 2023, the Commission shall report its findings and recommendations to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2–1257 of the State Government Article, the General Assembly.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June 1, 2023. It shall remain effective for a period of 1 year and 1 month and, at the end of June 30, 2024, this Act, with no further action required by the General Assembly, shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.

Approved by the Governor, May 3, 2023.