

HOUSE BILL 1277

C8
HB 1621/18 – HGO

0lr1191

By: **Delegates Lisanti and Johnson**

Introduced and read first time: February 7, 2020

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **University of Maryland – Harford Memorial Hospital Closure – Economic**
3 **Impact Study**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring the University of Maryland Institute for Governmental
5 Service and Research to conduct a study on the economic impact of the closure of
6 Harford Memorial Hospital in Havre de Grace and the transfer of its services to
7 another location; requiring the Institute to conduct the study in a certain manner;
8 requiring the Institute to develop a revitalization plan for the City in a certain
9 manner; requiring the Institute to report certain findings and information to certain
10 committees of the General Assembly on or before a certain date; providing for the
11 termination of this Act; and generally relating to the economic impact of the closure
12 of Harford Memorial Hospital.

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

15 (a) The University of Maryland Institute for Governmental Service and Research
16 shall conduct a study on the economic impact of the closure of Harford Memorial Hospital
17 and the subsequent transfer of its services to another campus under the University of
18 Maryland Upper Chesapeake Health System.

19 (b) (1) In conducting the study required under subsection (a) of this section,
20 the Institute shall quantify the economic impact of the hospital closure on the City of Havre
21 de Grace.

22 (2) The study shall consider:

23 (i) the impact on existing small businesses in downtown Havre de
24 Grace, including any displacement effect from new businesses established at the new
25 campus;

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



(ii) the effect on employment at the existing facility at Harford Memorial Hospital, including the costs and benefits of relocation to the new facility;

(iii) the effect on homeownership in the surrounding communities, including any effect on property values and on Harford County's property tax assessable base; and

(iv) any other potential consequences for the City of Havre de Grace from a prolonged vacancy at the current hospital site.

(c) The Institute shall develop a revitalization plan for the City of Havre de Grace that:

(1) is consistent with the City's current comprehensive plan;

(2) incorporates the findings of the economic impact study required under subsection (a) of this section; and

(3) includes opportunities for public-private investment from the local, State, and University of Maryland Medical System partnership.

(d) On or before December 1, 2020, the Institute shall report to the Senate Finance Committee and the House Economic Matters Committee, in accordance with § 2-1257 of the State Government Article, on the findings of the study required under subsection (a) of this section and the revitalization plan required under subsection (c) of this section.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June 1, 2020. It shall remain effective for a period of 1 year and 1 month and, at the end of June 30, 2021, this Act, with no further action required by the General Assembly, shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.