

MSBA Bill Report 1 - Health Law (2024.01.20)

January 20, 2024

MD - HB10 Criminal Injuries Compensation Board - Eligible Individuals and Direct Reimbursement for Mental Health Services

Last Action: Hearing 1/30 at 1:00 p.m. (January 16, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Delegate Dalya Attar (D)

Committee: Judiciary (House)

Scheduled Hearing:

Judiciary (House)

Date: January 30, 2024
Time: 1:00pm (EST)

Location: House Office Building, Room 100, Annapolis, MD

Summary:

Altering which individuals are eligible to receive mental health counseling paid for by the Criminal Injuries Compensation Fund; requiring the Criminal Injuries Compensation Board to provide direct reimbursement to mental health professionals providing mental health services to a victim of a crime or a parent, a child, a sibling, a stepchild, or an intimate partner of a victim of a crime; and requiring the Board, in consultation with the Maryland Department of Health, to adopt regulations to implement the reimbursement program.

MD - HB23 Maryland Health Benefit Exchange - Qualified Health Plans - Dental Coverage

Last Action: Hearing 1/25 at 2:30 p.m. (January 17, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Chair, Health and Government Operations Committee

Committee: Health and Government Operations (House)

Scheduled Hearing:

Health and Government Operations (House)

Date: January 25, 2024 Time: 2:30pm (EST)

Location: House Office Building, Room 240, Annapolis, MD

Summary:

Repealing a certain provision of law providing that a qualified health plan is not required under certain circumstances to provide essential benefits that duplicate the minimum benefits of qualified dental plans; and repealing the authority of the Maryland Health Benefit Exchange to require children enrolling in a qualified health plan to have essential pediatric dental benefits required by the federal Secretary of Health and Human Services.

Cross-filed Bill: SB228

Last Action: Hearing 1/25 at 2:30 p.m. (January 17, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Chair, Health and Government Operations Committee

Committee: Health and Government Operations (House)

Scheduled Hearing:

Health and Government Operations (House)

Date: January 25, 2024 Time: 2:30pm (EST)

Location: House Office Building, Room 240, Annapolis, MD

Summary:

Conforming provisions of State health insurance law with existing federal requirements, including updating effective dates for federal regulations, clarifying federal consumer protection regulations resulting from changes to the federal No Surprises Act, altering the material errors that trigger special enrollment periods, and authorizing the Maryland Health Benefits Exchange to adopt an expanded open enrollment period under certain circumstances.

Cross-filed Bill: SB217

MD - HB39 Residential Service Agencies - Reimbursement - Personal Assistance Services (Homecare Worker Rights Act of 2024)

Last Action: Hearing 1/24 at 1:00 p.m. (January 12, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Delegate Robbyn Lewis (D)

Committee: Health and Government Operations (House)

Scheduled Hearing:

Health and Government Operations (House)

Date: January 24, 2024 Time: 1:00pm (EST)

Location: House Office Building, Room 240, Annapolis, MD

Summary:

Authorizing the Maryland Department of Health to reimburse a residential service agency for personal assistance services only if the personal assistance services are provided by an individual classified as an employee.

Cross-filed Bill: SB197

MD - HB42 Public Health - Public Health Services and Protections - Revisions

Last Action: Hearing 1/31 at 1:00 p.m. (January 19, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Chair, Health and Government Operations Committee

Committee: Health and Government Operations (House)

Scheduled Hearing:

Health and Government Operations (House)

Date: January 31, 2024 Time: 1:00pm (EST)

Location: House Office Building, Room 240, Annapolis, MD

Summary:

Repealing the exceptions that allow the sale, distribution, or purchase of tobacco products, tobacco paraphernalia, and electronic smoking devices to or for certain individuals who are active duty members of the military; authorizing the Maryland Department of Health to reallocate from one county to another county certain projected unspent grant funding relating to cancer to address certain funding needs; altering the duties of the State Council on Child Abuse and Neglect; etc.

Cross-filed Bill: SB220

MD - HB57 Prescription Drug Monitoring Program Dispensers Veterinarians

Last Action: Hearing 1/31 at 1:00 p.m. (January 19, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Chair, Health and Government Operations Committee

Committee: Health and Government Operations (House)

Scheduled Hearing:

Health and Government Operations (House)

Date: January 31, 2024 Time: 1:00pm (EST)

Location: House Office Building, Room 240, Annapolis, MD

Summary:

Altering the definition of "dispenser" for purposes of the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program to include certain licensed veterinarians when dispensing controlled substances for animals in the usual course of providing professional services; and providing that the Program is not required to disclose prescription drug monitoring data to veterinarians.

Cross-filed Bill: SB235

MD - HB68 Continuing Care Retirement Communities - Governing Bodies, Grievances, and Entrance Fees

Last Action: Hearing 2/01 at 1:00 p.m. (January 17, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Delegate Dana Stein (D)

Committee: Health and Government Operations (House)

Scheduled Hearing:

Health and Government Operations (House)

Date: February 1, 2024 **Time:** 1:00pm (EST)

Location: House Office Building, Room 240, Annapolis, MD

Summary:

Altering the membership of governing bodies of continuing care retirement communities by increasing the number of subscribers; altering the number of times select committees of providers without a governing body are required to meet with subscribers each year; requiring the Department of Aging to collect certain information about internal grievances; altering the processes for the termination of a continuing care agreement; and altering the process for refunding certain entrance fees.

Cross-filed Bill: SB76

MD - HB110 Health Insurance - Utilization Review - Private Review Agents

Last Action: Text - First - Health Insurance - Utilization Review - Private Review Agents (January 10, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Delegate Lorig Charkoudian (D)

Committee: Health and Government Operations (House)

Summary:

Requiring that certain criteria and standards used by private review agents for health insurance utilization review relating to mental health and substance use disorder benefits meet certain requirements; requiring a private review agent to take certain actions before issuing an adverse decision; and specifying the procedure for private review agents to follow when making decisions related to mental health and substance use disorder benefits.

Cross-filed Bill: SB93

MD - HB118 Correctional Services - Geriatric and Medical Parole

Last Action: Text - First - Correctional Services - Geriatric and Medical Parole (January 10, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Delegate J. Sandy Bartlett (D)

Committee: Judiciary (House)

Summary:

Requiring the Maryland Parole Commission to consider the age of incarcerated individuals when determining whether to grant parole; altering how the Commission evaluates a request for medical parole; requiring the Commission to develop procedures for assessing parole requests by certain

incarcerated individuals; and requiring the Commission to report yearly to the Justice Reinvestment Oversight Board on the outcomes of certain parole considerations.

Cross-filed Bill: SB128

MD - HB119 Public Health - Giving Infants a Future Without Transmission (GIFT) Act

Last Action: Text - First - Public Health - Giving Infants a Future Without Transmission (GIFT) Act (January 10, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Chair, Health and Government Operations Committee

Committee: Health and Government Operations (House)

Summary:

Altering certain HIV and syphilis reporting and testing requirements for hospitals and health care providers for pregnant women and newborns, including by requiring that the pregnancy status of certain individuals be included in certain reports and that certain health care providers submit certain blood samples to medical laboratories.

Cross-filed Bill: SB211

MD - HB127 Public Health - Nonoccupational Postexposure Prophylaxis (nPEP) Standing Order Program - Establishment

Last Action: Hearing 1/31 at 1:00 p.m. (January 19, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Chair, Health and Government Operations Committee

Committee: Health and Government Operations (House)

Scheduled Hearing:

Health and Government Operations (House)

Date: January 31, 2024 Time: 1:00pm (EST)

Location: House Office Building, Room 240, Annapolis, MD

Summary:

Establishing the Nonoccupational Postexposure Prophylaxis (nPEP) Standing Order Program to authorize pharmacists and health care providers to prescribe or dispense nPEP under certain circumstances; and authorizing the Maryland Department of Health to administer the Program, collect fees necessary for the administration of the Program, and establish guidelines for training related to the Program.

Cross-filed Bill: SB246

MD - HB146 Health Occupations Boards Reciprocal Licensure and Certification

Last Action: Hearing 2/01 at 1:00 p.m. (January 17, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Chair, Health and Government Operations Committee

Committee: Health and Government Operations (House)

Scheduled Hearing:

Health and Government Operations (House)

Date: February 1, 2024 **Time:** 1:00pm (EST)

Location: House Office Building, Room 240, Annapolis, MD

Summary:

Authorizing certain health occupations boards to adopt regulations establishing reciprocity for individuals licensed or certified in another state or jurisdiction.

Cross-filed Bill: SB221

MD - HB149 Medical Records - Destruction - Authorization

Last Action: Text - First - Medical Records - Destruction - Authorization (January 10, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Delegate Jesse T. Pippy (R)

Cosponsor: Delegate Kenneth Kerr (D)

Committee: Health and Government Operations (House)

Summary:

Extending the time period during which a health care provider is prohibited from destroying medical records and laboratory and X-ray reports and altering the circumstances under which the health care provider can destroy a record or report during that time period; requiring a health care provider, if authorization to destroy a record or report is provided, to make a medical record available for retrieval by a patient or a parent or guardian of a minor patient within a certain time period and at a certain location; etc.

MD - HB171 State Board of Pharmacy - Membership - Veterinary Pharmacist

Last Action: Hearing 2/01 at 1:00 p.m. (January 17, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Delegate Michele Guyton (D)

Committee: Health and Government Operations (House)

Scheduled Hearing:

Health and Government Operations (House)

Date: February 1, 2024 **Time:** 1:00pm (EST)

Location: House Office Building, Room 240, Annapolis, MD

Summary:

Adding a veterinary pharmacist member to the State Board of Pharmacy.

MD - HB177 Hospitals - Care of Infants After Discharge

Last Action: Text - First - Hospitals - Care of Infants After Discharge (January 10, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Delegate Robbyn Lewis (D)

Committee: Health and Government Operations (House)

Summary:

Requiring a hospital to provide certain oral and written instructions to the parent or legal guardian of an infant before the hospital discharges the infant into the care of the parent or legal guardian; requiring a hospital before discharging an infant to inquire as to whether a parent or legal guardian is able to provide the infant with a safe sleep environment and a bassinet, crib, or portable crib, inform a parent or legal guardian of certain matters, and provide each parent or legal guardian with a certain form; etc.

MD - HB184 Public Health - Healthy Maryland Program - Establishment

Last Action: Text - First - Public Health - Healthy Maryland Program - Establishment (January 10, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Delegate Gabriel Acevero (D)

Committee: Health and Government Operations (House)

Summary:

Establishing the Healthy Maryland Program as a public corporation and a unit of State government to provide comprehensive universal single-payer health care services for residents of the State by January 1, 2026; establishing requirements and prohibitions related to Healthy Maryland, including provisions regarding eligibility, participation by and payments to health care providers, benefits, payroll premiums, funding, and collective negotiations with health care providers; etc.

MD - HB185 Correctional Services - Medical Parole - Life Imprisonment

Last Action: Text - First - Correctional Services - Medical Parole - Life Imprisonment (January 10, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Delegate J. Sandy Bartlett (D)

Committee: Judiciary (House)

Summary:

Repealing provisions relating to gubernatorial approval of a decision of the Maryland Parole Commission to grant medical parole to an inmate serving a sentence of life imprisonment.

Cross-filed Bill: SB132

MD - HB189 Maryland Medical Assistance Program - Provider Agencies and Personal Care Aides - Reimbursement and Wage Reports (Homecare Workers Employment Act of 2024)

Last Action: Hearing 1/24 at 1:00 p.m. (January 12, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Delegate Robbyn Lewis (D)

Committee: Health and Government Operations (House)

Scheduled Hearing:

Health and Government Operations (House)

Date: January 24, 2024 **Time:** 1:00pm (EST)

Location: House Office Building, Room 240, Annapolis, MD

Summary:

Requiring provider agencies to submit certain reports to the Maryland Department of Labor regarding wage rates for personal care aides on or before September 1 each year, beginning in 2025; and requiring, by September 30, 2026, and every 2 years thereafter, the Maryland Department of Health to submit reports to the Senate Finance Committee and the House Health and Government Operations Committee regarding reimbursement rates for provider agencies and any recommended regulatory or legislative changes.

MD - HB218 Income Tax - Credit for Long-Term Care Premiums (Long-Term Care Relief Act of 2024)

Last Action: Hearing 2/01 at 1:00 p.m. (January 11, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Delegate Vaughn Stewart (D)

Committee: Ways and Means (House)

Scheduled Hearing:

Ways and Means (House)

Date: February 1, 2024

Time: 1:00pm (EST)

Location: House Office Building, Room 130, Annapolis, MD

Summary:

Limiting eligibility for a credit against the State income tax for certain long-term care insurance premiums paid by a taxpayer for long-term care insurance purchased before January 1, 2005, to taxpayers who are at least 85 years old with a Maryland adjusted gross income of less than \$100,000 for an individual or \$200,000 for a joint filer; altering the maximum amount of the credit; and applying the Act to all taxable years beginning after December 31, 2023.

Cross-filed Bill: SB86

MD - HB230 Motor Vehicle Administration - Death Certificates - Issuance of Copies

Last Action: Text - First - Motor Vehicle Administration - Death Certificates - Issuance of Copies

(January 10, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Chair, Health and Government Operations Committee

Committee: Health and Government Operations (House)

Summary:

Authorizing the Motor Vehicle Administration to access electronically from the Maryland Department of Health a copy of a death certificate and, on request, provide any person authorized by regulations with a certified or abridged copy of a death certificate; and authorizing the Administration to set and collect a fee for processing and issuing death certificates, subject to certain limitations.

Cross-filed Bill: SB267

MD - HB232 Physicians and Allied Health Professions - Reorganization and Revisions

Last Action: Hearing 1/23 at 1:00 p.m. (January 11, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Chair, Health and Government Operations Committee

Committee: Health and Government Operations (House)

Scheduled Hearing:

Health and Government Operations (House)

Date: January 23, 2024 Time: 1:00pm (EST)

Location: House Office Building, Room 240, Annapolis, MD

Summary:

Repealing obsolete and redundant language in, clarifying language in, and reorganizing certain provisions of law governing the State Board of Physicians and the regulation of physicians, physician assistants, and allied health professions; altering physician, physician assistant, and allied health professional licensure exceptions for individuals in the service of the federal government; altering the grounds for discipline for physicians, physician assistants, and allied health professionals; etc.

Cross-filed Bill: SB218

MD - HB240 Health Insurance - Cancellation of Individual Health Benefit Plans - Restriction

Last Action: Hearing 1/25 at 2:30 p.m. (January 17, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Chair, Health and Government Operations Committee

Committee: Health and Government Operations (House)

Scheduled Hearing:

Health and Government Operations (House)

Date: January 25, 2024 Time: 2:30pm (EST)

Location: House Office Building, Room 240, Annapolis, MD

Summary:

Prohibiting a carrier from canceling an individual health benefit plan if a policyholder has made a premium payment before the end of the grace period, the amount of the premium payment made is less than the aggregate amount of the net monthly premium due as of the date of the payment, the amount of the deficiency is \$10 or less, and the policyholder pays the remainder of the net monthly premium due within 30 days after a written notice of the deficiency is sent by the carrier.

Cross-filed Bill: SB227

MD - HB253 Cannabis Reform - Alterations

Last Action: Text - First - Cannabis Reform - Alterations (January 10, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Chair, Economic Matters Committee

Committee: Economic Matters (House)

Summary:

Making alterations and clarifications related to the duties of the Alcohol, Tobacco, and Cannabis Commission, the Office of Social Equity, the Advisory Board on Medical and Adult-Use Cannabis, and the Maryland Cannabis Administration; altering the composition of the Advisory Board; requiring the Governor to appoint the chair of the Advisory Board and removing the Director of the Administration as chair; authorizing processors to provide cannabis to cannabis licensees; etc.

MD - HB265 Insurance - Producer Licensing Requirements - Education and Experience

Last Action: Text - First - Insurance - Producer Licensing Requirements - Education and Experience (January 12, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Delegate Lily Qi (D)

Committees:

Economic Matters (House)

Health and Government Operations (House)

Summary:

Repealing the requirements for education and experience for licensing of certain insurance producers, including producers for property and casualty insurance, life insurance, health insurance, annuities, certain limited lines, and related products.

Cross-filed Bill: SB336

MD - HB276 Health - Abortion Data - Submission to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Last Action: Text - First - Health - Abortion Data - Submission to the Centers for Disease Control and

Prevention (January 12, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Delegate Robin L. Grammer, Jr. (R)
Committee: Health and Government Operations (House)

Summary:

Requiring the Maryland Department of Health to submit to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention any data regarding abortion requested by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, unless submitting the data would violate federal or State law.

MD - HB312 Physician Assistants - Collaboration Agreements

Last Action: Hearing canceled (January 19, 2024)
Primary Sponsor: Delegate Heather Bagnall (D)

Committee: Health and Government Operations (House)

Scheduled Hearing:

Health and Government Operations (House)

Date: January 30, 2024 Time: 2:30pm (EST)

Location: House Office Building, Room 240, Annapolis, MD

Summary:

Requiring a physician assistant to have a collaboration agreement with a patient care team physician, rather than a delegation agreement with a primary supervising physician, in order to practice as a physician assistant; increasing, from four to eight, the number of physician assistants to whom a patient care team physician may delegate medical acts under a collaboration agreement; altering the circumstances under which and the settings at which a physician assistant is authorized to perform advanced duties without certain approval; etc.

MD - HB328 Hospitals - Financial Assistance Policies - Revisions

Last Action: Text - First - Hospitals - Financial Assistance Policies - Revisions (January 15, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Delegate Lesley J. Lopez (D)

Cosponsors:

Delegate Deni Taveras (D)

Delegate Nick Allen (D)

Delegate Adrian Boafo (D)

Delegate Lorig Charkoudian (D)

Delegate Bonnie Cullison (D)

Delegate Julie Palakovich Carr (D)

Delegate Emily Shetty (D)

Committee: Health and Government Operations (House)

Summary:

Altering the required contents of a hospital's financial assistance policy by removing the requirement that the provision of reduced-cost medically necessary care and payment plans be in accordance with the mission and service area of the hospital; and prohibiting hospitals from considering a household's monetary assets in determining eligibility for free and reduced-cost care under the hospital's financial assistance policy, rather than allowing hospitals to consider certain household monetary assets.

MD - HB340 Prescription Drug Affordability Board - Authority for Upper Payment Limits and Funding (The Lowering Prescription Drug Costs For All Marylanders Now Act)

Last Action: Text - First - Prescription Drug Affordability Board - Authority for Upper Payment Limits and Funding (The Lowering Prescription Drug Costs For All Marylanders Now Act) (January 17, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Delegate Bonnie Cullison (D)
Cosponsor: Delegate Jennifer White Holland (D)

Committee: Health and Government Operations (House)

Summary:

Requiring the Governor in fiscal year 2025 and each fiscal year thereafter to include in the annual budget bill an appropriation of at least \$1,000,000 for the Prescription Drug Affordability Fund which provides funding for the Board; and requiring the Board, under certain circumstances, to establish a process for setting upper payment limits for all purchases and payor reimbursements of prescription drug products in the State that the Board determines have led or will lead to affordability challenges.

MD - HB349 Department of Aging - Long-Term Care Insurance - Study

Last Action: Text - First - Department of Aging - Long-Term Care Insurance - Study (January 17, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Delegate Bonnie Cullison (D)

Committee: Health and Government Operations (House)

Summary:

Requiring the Department of Aging to contract with an independent consultant to complete an insurance study on public and private options for leveraging resources to help individuals prepare for long-term care services and support needs; and requiring the Department to submit an interim report by December 31, 2024 summarizing the progress of the study and a final report by December 31, 2025 to the Governor and General Assembly on the results of the study.

MD - HB350 Budget Bill (Fiscal Year 2025)

Last Action: Text - First - Budget Bill (Fiscal Year 2025) (January 17, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Speaker

Committee: Appropriations (House)

Summary:

Making the proposed appropriations contained in the State Budget for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025, in accordance with Article III, Section 52 of the Maryland Constitution; etc.

Cross-filed Bill: SB360

MD - HB353 Maryland Department of Health - 2-1-1 Maryland - Oversight

Last Action: Text - First - Maryland Department of Health - 2-1-1 Maryland - Oversight (January 17, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Delegate Bonnie Cullison (D)

Committee: Health and Government Operations (House)

Summary:

Defining the term "Health and Human Services Referral System" for the purposes of certain provisions of law governing the System to mean a certain coordinated system for health and human service resources that is accessible to State residents, rather than a certain telephone service; repealing the requirement that the Maryland Department of Health evaluate the performance of certain call centers and make certain recommendations regarding the quality of service provided by call centers; etc.

MD - HB400 Maryland Medical Assistance Program and Health Insurance - Annual Behavioral Health Wellness Visits - Coverage and Reimbursement

Last Action: Text - First - Maryland Medical Assistance Program and Health Insurance - Annual Behavioral Health Wellness Visits - Coverage and Reimbursement (January 18, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Delegate Jamila J. Woods (D)

Cosponsors:

Delegate Tiffany T. Alston (D)

Delegate Pam Lanman Guzzone (D)

Delegate Kevin M. Harris (D)

Delegate Shaneka Henson (D)

Delegate Terri L. Hill (D)

Delegate Julian Ivey (D)

Delegate Steve Johnson (D)

Delegate Aaron M. Kaufman (D)

Delegate Kenneth Kerr (D)

Delegate Robbyn Lewis (D)

Delegate Jeffrie E. Long, Jr. (D)

Delegate Ashanti Martinez (D)

Delegate Aletheia McCaskill (D)

Delegate Edith J. Patterson (D)

Delegate Kent Roberson (D)

Delegate Denise Roberts (D)

Delegate Stuart Michael Schmidt, Jr. (R)

Delegate Gary Simmons (D)

Delegate Karen Simpson (D)

Delegate Deni Taveras (D)

Delegate Kym Taylor (D)

Delegate Veronica Turner (D)

Delegate Kriselda Valderrama (D)

Delegate Jennifer White Holland (D)

Committee: Health and Government Operations (House)

Summary:

Requiring the Maryland Medical Assistance Program and certain health insurers, nonprofit health service plans, and health maintenance organizations to provide coverage and certain reimbursement for annual behavioral health wellness visits; and applying the Act to all policies, contracts, and health benefit plans issued, delivered, or renewed in the State on or after January 1, 2025.

Cross-filed Bill: SB124

MD - SB3 Health Occupations - Service Members, Veterans, and Military Spouses - Temporary Licensure, Certification, Registration, and Permitting

Last Action: Hearing 1/30 at 1:00 p.m. (January 10, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Senator Michael A. Jackson (D)

Committee: Finance (Senate)

Scheduled Hearing: Finance (Senate)

Date: January 30, 2024

Time: 1:00pm (EST)

Location: East Miller Senate Building, Room 3, Annapolis, MD

Summary:

Requiring health occupations boards to issue an expedited temporary license, certificate, registration, or permit to a service member, veteran, or military spouse who meets certain requirements; requiring each health occupations board to include a check-off box prominently on each license, certification, or registration application form; requiring the Maryland Department of Health to publish prominently on its website information about the expedited licensing process and any assistance provided; etc.

MD - SB47 Public Health - Sale of Diet Pills to Minors - Prohibition (Protecting Teenagers From Unregulated Diet Pills)

Last Action: Hearing 2/08 at 1:00 p.m. (January 11, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Senator Joanne C. Benson (D)

Committee: Finance (Senate)

Scheduled Hearing:

Finance (Senate) **Date:** February 8, 2024

Time: 1:00pm (EST)

Location: East Miller Senate Building, Room 3, Annapolis, MD

Summary:

Establishing prohibitions and requirements regarding the sale of diet pills to individuals under the age of 18 years; requiring the Maryland Department of Health to develop a notice with information about the potential health risks of diet pills; and authorizing the Department to establish limitations on which diet pills are subject to the Act.

MD - SB76 Continuing Care Retirement Communities - Governing Bodies, Grievances, and Entrance Fees

Last Action: Hearing 2/08 at 1:00 p.m. (January 11, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Senator Clarence K. Lam (D)

Cosponsor: Senator Shelly Hettleman (D)

Committee: Finance (Senate)

Scheduled Hearing:

Finance (Senate)

Date: February 8, 2024
Time: 1:00pm (EST)

Location: East Miller Senate Building, Room 3, Annapolis, MD

Summary:

Altering the membership of governing bodies of continuing care retirement communities by increasing the number of subscribers; altering the number of times select committees of providers

without a governing body are required to meet with subscribers each year; requiring the Department of Aging to collect certain information about internal grievances; altering the processes for the termination of a continuing care agreement; and altering the process for refunding certain entrance fees.

Cross-filed Bill: HB68

MD - SB86 Income Tax - Credit for Long-Term Care Premiums (Long-Term Care Relief Act of 2024)

Last Action: Text - First - Income Tax - Credit for Long-Term Care Premiums (Long-Term Care Relief

Act of 2024) (January 10, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Senator Katherine Klausmeier (D)

Committee: Budget and Taxation (Senate)

Summary:

Limiting eligibility for a credit against the State income tax for certain long-term care insurance premiums paid by a taxpayer for long-term care insurance purchased before January 1, 2005, to taxpayers who are at least 85 years old with a Maryland adjusted gross income of less than \$100,000 for an individual or \$200,000 for a joint filer; altering the maximum amount of the credit; and applying the Act to all taxable years beginning after December 31, 2023.

Cross-filed Bill: HB218

MD - SB93 Health Insurance Utilization Review Private Review Agents

Last Action: Text - First - Health InsuranceUtilization ReviewPrivate Review Agents (January 10, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Senator Malcolm Augustine (D)

Committee: Finance (Senate)

Summary:

Requiring that certain criteria and standards used by private review agents for health insurance utilization review relating to mental health and substance use disorder benefits meet certain requirements; requiring a private review agent to take certain actions before issuing an adverse decision; and specifying the procedure for private review agents to follow when making decisions related to mental health and substance use disorder benefits.

Cross-filed Bill: HB110

MD - SB119 Legally Protected Health Care - Gender-Affirming Treatment

Last Action: Text - First - Legally Protected Health Care - Gender-Affirming Treatment (January 10,

2024)

Primary Sponsor: Senator Clarence K. Lam (D)

Cosponsors:

Senator Shelly Hettleman (D) Senator Jeff Waldstreicher (D)

Committee: Finance (Senate)

Summary:

Altering the definition of "legally protected health care" to include certain gender-affirming treatment, including medications and supplies, for the purposes of certain provisions of law that prohibit health occupations disciplinary actions and certain actions in criminal and civil proceedings and the use of certain resources in furtherance of certain investigations and proceedings related to legally protected health care.

MD - SB128 Correctional Services - Geriatric and Medical Parole

Last Action: Hearing 2/07 at 2:00 p.m. (January 15, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Senator Shelly Hettleman (D)

Committee: Judicial Proceedings (Senate)

Scheduled Hearing:

Judicial Proceedings (Senate) **Date:** February 7, 2024

Time: 2:00pm (EST)

Location: East Miller Senate Building, Room 2, Annapolis, MD

Summary:

Requiring the Maryland Parole Commission to consider the age of incarcerated individuals when determining whether to grant parole; altering how the Commission evaluates a request for medical parole; requiring the Commission to develop procedures for assessing parole requests by certain incarcerated individuals; and requiring the Commission to report yearly to the Justice Reinvestment Oversight Board on the outcomes of certain parole considerations.

Cross-filed Bill: HB118

MD - SB132 Correctional Services Medical Parole Life Imprisonment

Last Action: Hearing 2/07 at 2:00 p.m. (January 15, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Senator Jill P. Carter (D) Committee: Judicial Proceedings (Senate) Scheduled Hearing:

Judicial Proceedings (Senate)

Date: February 7, 2024 **Time:** 2:00pm (EST)

Location: East Miller Senate Building, Room 2, Annapolis, MD

Summary:

Repealing provisions relating to gubernatorial approval of a decision of the Maryland Parole Commission to grant medical parole to an inmate serving a sentence of life imprisonment.

Cross-filed Bill: HB185

MD - SB142 Genetic Testing - Prohibitions on Disability, Life, and Long-Term Care Insurance (Genetic Testing Protection Act of 2024)

Last Action: Hearing 1/31 at 1:00 p.m. (January 15, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Senator Katherine Klausmeier (D)

Committee: Finance (Senate)

Scheduled Hearing:

Finance (Senate)

Date: January 31, 2024 **Time:** 1:00pm (EST)

Location: East Miller Senate Building, Room 3, Annapolis, MD

Summary:

Prohibiting insurance carriers that offer life insurance, long-term care insurance, and disability insurance policies or contracts from taking certain action regarding coverage based on whether an applicant or a policy or contract holder has requested or undergone genetic testing or the results of the genetic testing.

MD - SB167 Physician Assistants - Revisions (Physician Assistant Modernization Act of 2024)

Last Action: Text - First - Physician Assistants - Revisions (Physician Assistant Modernization Act of 2024) (January 10, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Senator Mary Beth Carozza (R)

Committee: Finance (Senate)

Summary:

Requiring that a physician assistant have a collaboration agreement, rather than a delegation agreement, in order to practice as a physician assistant; altering the scope of practice of a physician assistant; altering the education required for licensure as a physician assistant; and authorizing

physician assistants who are employees of the federal government to perform acts, tasks, or functions as a physician assistant during a certain disaster.

MD - SB197 Residential Service Agencies - Reimbursement - Personal Assistance Services

Last Action: Hearing 2/08 at 1:00 p.m. (January 11, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Senator Arthur Ellis (D)

Committee: Finance (Senate)

Scheduled Hearing:

Finance (Senate)

Date: February 8, 2024 **Time:** 1:00pm (EST)

Location: East Miller Senate Building, Room 3, Annapolis, MD

Summary:

Authorizing the Maryland Department of Health to reimburse a residential service agency for personal assistance services only if the personal assistance services are provided by an individual classified as an employee.

Cross-filed Bill: HB39

MD - SB201 Public Health - Childbirth - Paternity Test

Last Action: Hearing 2/08 at 1:00 p.m. (January 11, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Senator Ron Watson (D)

Committee: Finance (Senate)

Scheduled Hearing: Finance (Senate)

Date: February 8, 2024

Time: 1:00pm (EST)

Location: East Miller Senate Building, Room 3, Annapolis, MD

Summary:

Requiring, when a child is born at a health care facility, the attending physician to offer to the presumed father of the child the option to take a paternity test; requiring that the offer to take a paternity test be made orally and in writing and before a birth certificate form for the child is completed; allowing the presumed father the option to waive the right to take a paternity test or elect to take a paternity test at any time before completion of the child's birth certificate; etc.

MD - SB208 Maryland Medical Assistance Program - Provider Agencies and Personal Care Aides - Reimbursement and Wages

Last Action: Hearing 2/06 at 1:00 p.m. (Finance) (January 17, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Senator Joanne C. Benson (D)

Committees:

Budget and Taxation (Senate)

Finance (Senate)

Scheduled Hearing:

Finance (Senate)

Date: February 6, 2024 **Time:** 1:00pm (EST)

Location: East Miller Senate Building, Room 3, Annapolis, MD

Summary:

Requiring the Maryland Department of Health to increase the hourly reimbursement rate for certain personal assistance services under the Maryland Medical Assistance Program to a minimum of \$25 per hour; requiring provider agencies to pay the greater of \$16 per hour or 64% of the hourly reimbursement rate to personal care aides and to provide a written notice regarding the wage to personal care aides; requiring provider agencies to submit annual cost reports to the Department; etc.

MD - SB211 Public Health - Giving Infants a Future Without Transmission (GIFT) Act

Last Action: Hearing 2/08 at 1:00 p.m. (January 11, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Chair, Finance Committee

Committee: Finance (Senate)

Scheduled Hearing: Finance (Senate)

Date: February 8, 2024

Time: 1:00pm (EST)

Location: East Miller Senate Building, Room 3, Annapolis, MD

Summary:

Altering certain HIV and syphilis reporting and testing requirements for hospitals and health care providers for pregnant women and newborns, including by requiring that the pregnancy status of certain individuals be included in certain reports and that certain health care providers submit certain blood samples to medical laboratories.

Cross-filed Bill: HB119

MD - SB212 Behavioral Health Advisory Council and Commission on Behavioral Health Care Treatment and Access - Alterations

Last Action: Hearing 1/30 at 1:00 p.m. (January 10, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Chair, Finance Committee

Committee: Finance (Senate)

Scheduled Hearing: Finance (Senate)

> Date: January 30, 2024 Time: 1:00pm (EST)

Location: East Miller Senate Building, Room 3, Annapolis, MD

Summary:

Altering the membership and terms of members of the Behavioral Health Advisory Council; requiring the Commission on Behavioral Health Care Treatment and Access to meet jointly with the Council; and requiring the Commission, in coordination with the Council, to make recommendations regarding the financing structure and quality oversight necessary to integrate somatic and behavioral health services in the Maryland Medical Assistance Program.

MD - SB217 Health Insurance - Conformity With Federal Law

Last Action: Text - First - Health Insurance - Conformity With Federal Law (January 10, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Chair, Finance Committee

Committee: Finance (Senate)

Scheduled Hearing:

Finance (Senate) **Date:** January 24, 2024

Time: 1:30pm (EST)

Location: East Miller Senate Building, Room 3, Annapolis, MD

Summary:

Conforming provisions of State health insurance law with existing federal requirements, including updating effective dates for federal regulations, clarifying federal consumer protection regulations resulting from changes to the federal No Surprises Act, altering the material errors that trigger special enrollment periods, and authorizing the Maryland Health Benefits Exchange to adopt an expanded open enrollment period under certain circumstances.

Cross-filed Bill: HB30

MD - SB218 Physicians and Allied Health Professions - Reorganization and Revisions

Last Action: Hearing 1/30 at 1:00 p.m. (January 10, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Chair, Finance Committee

Committee: Finance (Senate)

Scheduled Hearing:

Finance (Senate)

Date: January 30, 2024 Time: 1:00pm (EST)

Location: East Miller Senate Building, Room 3, Annapolis, MD

Summary:

Repealing obsolete and redundant language in, clarifying language in, and reorganizing certain provisions of law governing the State Board of Physicians and the regulation of physicians, physician assistants, and allied health professions; altering physician, physician assistant, and allied health professional licensure exceptions for individuals in the service of the federal government; altering the grounds for discipline for physicians, physician assistants, and allied health professionals; etc.

Cross-filed Bill: HB232

MD - SB219 Senior Prescription Drug Assistance Program Sunset Extension

Last Action: Hearing 1/31 at 1:00 p.m. (January 15, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Chair, Finance Committee

Committee: Finance (Senate)

Scheduled Hearing: Finance (Senate)

> Date: January 31, 2024 Time: 1:00pm (EST)

Location: East Miller Senate Building, Room 3, Annapolis, MD

Summary:

Extending to December 31, 2030, the termination date of the Senior Prescription Drug Assistance Program.

MD - SB220 Public Health Public Health Services and Protections Revisions

Last Action: Hearing 1/30 at 1:00 p.m. (January 10, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Chair, Finance Committee

Committee: Finance (Senate)

Scheduled Hearing:

Finance (Senate)

Date: January 30, 2024 Time: 1:00pm (EST)

Location: East Miller Senate Building, Room 3, Annapolis, MD

Summary:

Repealing the exceptions that allow the sale, distribution, or purchase of tobacco products, tobacco paraphernalia, and electronic smoking devices to or for certain individuals who are active duty members of the military; authorizing the Maryland Department of Health to reallocate from one county to another county certain projected unspent grant funding relating to cancer to address certain funding needs; altering the duties of the State Council on Child Abuse and Neglect; etc.

Cross-filed Bill: HB42

MD - SB221 Health Occupations Boards Reciprocal Licensure and Certification

Last Action: Hearing 1/30 at 1:00 p.m. (January 10, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Chair, Finance Committee

Committee: Finance (Senate)

Scheduled Hearing:

Finance (Senate)

Date: January 30, 2024 Time: 1:00pm (EST)

Location: East Miller Senate Building, Room 3, Annapolis, MD

Summary:

Authorizing certain health occupations boards to adopt regulations establishing reciprocity for individuals licensed or certified in another state or jurisdiction.

Cross-filed Bill: HB146

MD - SB224 Cemeteries - Burial-Transit Permits - Required Information

Last Action: Text - First - Cemeteries - Burial-Transit Permits - Required Information (January 10, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Chair, Finance Committee

Committee: Finance (Senate)

Scheduled Hearing: Finance (Senate)

Date: January 24, 2024

Time: 1:30pm (EST)

Location: East Miller Senate Building, Room 3, Annapolis, MD

Summary:

Requiring a person in charge of a cemetery to write on a burial-transit permit, the date of final disposition, the name and physical address of the cemetery, the burial, inurnment or scattering

section and the lot and space number, or if the body or fetus was cremated and a certain authorizing agent takes control of the cremains, the name and address of the authorizing agent and the authorizing agent's relationship to the deceased or fetus.

MD - SB227 Health Insurance Cancellation of Individual Health Benefit Plans Restriction

Last Action: Text - First - Health Insurance Cancellation of Individual Health Benefit Plans

Restriction (January 10, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Chair, Finance Committee

Committee: Finance (Senate)

Scheduled Hearing: Finance (Senate)

> Date: January 24, 2024 Time: 1:30pm (EST)

Location: East Miller Senate Building, Room 3, Annapolis, MD

Summary:

Prohibiting a carrier from canceling an individual health benefit plan if a policyholder has made a premium payment before the end of the grace period, the amount of the premium payment made is less than the aggregate amount of the net monthly premium due as of the date of the payment, the amount of the deficiency is \$10 or less, and the policyholder pays the remainder of the net monthly premium due within 30 days after a written notice of the deficiency is sent by the carrier.

Cross-filed Bill: HB240

MD - SB228 Maryland Health Benefit Exchange - Qualified Health Plans - Dental Coverage

Last Action: Text - First - Maryland Health Benefit Exchange - Qualified Health Plans - Dental

Coverage (January 10, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Chair, Finance Committee

Committee: Finance (Senate)

Scheduled Hearing:

Finance (Senate)

Date: January 24, 2024 Time: 1:30pm (EST)

Location: East Miller Senate Building, Room 3, Annapolis, MD

Summary:

Repealing a certain provision of law providing that a qualified health plan is not required under certain circumstances to provide essential benefits that duplicate the minimum benefits of qualified dental plans; and repealing the authority of the Maryland Health Benefit Exchange to require

children enrolling in a qualified health plan to have essential pediatric dental benefits required by the federal Secretary of Health and Human Services.

Cross-filed Bill: HB23

MD - SB235 Prescription Drug Monitoring Program - Dispensers - Veterinarians

Last Action: Text - First - Prescription Drug Monitoring Program - Dispensers - Veterinarians (January

10, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Chair, Finance Committee

Committee: Finance (Senate)

Scheduled Hearing:

Finance (Senate)

Date: January 24, 2024 Time: 1:30pm (EST)

Location: East Miller Senate Building, Room 3, Annapolis, MD

Summary:

Altering the definition of "dispenser" for purposes of the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program to include certain licensed veterinarians when dispensing controlled substances for animals in the usual course of providing professional services; and providing that the Program is not required to disclose prescription drug monitoring data to veterinarians.

Cross-filed Bill: HB57

MD - SB246 Public Health - Nonoccupational Postexposure Prophylaxis (nPEP) Standing Order

Program - Establishment

Last Action: Hearing 1/30 at 1:00 p.m. (January 10, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Chair, Finance Committee

Committee: Finance (Senate)

Scheduled Hearing: Finance (Senate)

Date: January 30, 2024 Time: 1:00pm (EST)

Location: East Miller Senate Building, Room 3, Annapolis, MD

Summary:

Establishing the Nonoccupational Postexposure Prophylaxis (nPEP) Standing Order Program to authorize pharmacists and health care providers to prescribe or dispense nPEP under certain circumstances; and authorizing the Maryland Department of Health to administer the Program,

collect fees necessary for the administration of the Program, and establish guidelines for training related to the Program.

Cross-filed Bill: HB127

MD - SB267 Motor Vehicle Administration - Death Certificates - Issuance of Copies

Last Action: Hearing 2/06 at 1:00 p.m. (January 15, 2024) Primary Sponsor: Chair, Judicial Proceedings Committee

Committee: Judicial Proceedings (Senate)

Scheduled Hearing:

Judicial Proceedings (Senate) **Date:** February 6, 2024 **Time:** 1:00pm (EST)

Location: East Miller Senate Building, Room 2, Annapolis, MD

Summary:

Authorizing the Motor Vehicle Administration to access electronically from the Maryland Department of Health a copy of a death certificate and, on request, provide any person authorized by regulations with a certified or abridged copy of a death certificate; and authorizing the Administration to set and collect a fee for processing and issuing death certificates, subject to certain limitations.

Cross-filed Bill: HB230

MD - SB270 Adult Protective Services - Review Boards - Membership and Terms

Last Action: Hearing 2/06 at 1:00 p.m. (January 15, 2024) Primary Sponsor: Chair, Judicial Proceedings Committee

Committee: Judicial Proceedings (Senate)

Scheduled Hearing:

Judicial Proceedings (Senate)

Date: February 6, 2024 **Time:** 1:00pm (EST)

Location: East Miller Senate Building, Room 2, Annapolis, MD

Summary:

Altering provisions relating to the membership of, and the terms of members appointed to, adult public guardianship review boards.

MD - SB328 Funding for Wages and Benefits for Nursing Home Workers (Nursing Home Staffing Crisis Funding Act of 2024)

Last Action: Hearing 1/24 at 1:00 p.m. (January 13, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Senator Jim Rosapepe (D)
Committee: Budget and Taxation (Senate)

Scheduled Hearing:

Budget and Taxation (Senate) **Date:** January 24, 2024

Time: 1:00pm (EST)

Location: West Miller Senate Building, Room 3, Annapolis, MD

Summary:

Requiring that the Governor's proposed budget for each of fiscal years 2026, 2027, and 2028 include an 8% reimbursement rate increase for providers of certain health care services under the Maryland Medical Assistance Program, the Maryland Children's Health Program, and the Community First Choice program; requiring nursing homes to annually submit a certain cost report to the Maryland Department of Health; etc.

MD - SB336 Insurance Producer Licensing Requirements Education and Experience

Last Action: Hearing 1/31 at 1:00 p.m. (January 15, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Senator Katherine Klausmeier (D)

Committee: Finance (Senate)

Scheduled Hearing:

Finance (Senate)

Date: January 31, 2024 Time: 1:00pm (EST)

Location: East Miller Senate Building, Room 3, Annapolis, MD

Summary:

Repealing the requirements for education and experience for licensing of certain insurance producers, including producers for property and casualty insurance, life insurance, health insurance, annuities, certain limited lines, and related products.

Cross-filed Bill: HB265

MD - SB347 Medical Cannabis - Employees in Health Care Settings Caring for Qualifying Patients

Last Action: Text - First - Medical Cannabis - Employees in Health Care Settings Caring for Qualifying

Patients (January 15, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Senator Mike McKay (R)

Committee: Finance (Senate)

Summary:

Authorizing designated medical personnel to administer medical cannabis to qualifying patients only if the cannabis is obtained through the qualifying patients caregiver and is administered in accordance with the certifying provider's written instructions; providing that designated medical personnel are not required to register with the Maryland Cannabis Administration; and exempting designated medical personnel from civil and criminal penalties relating to the administration of medical cannabis.

MD - SB349 State Prescription Drug Benefits - Retirees

Last Action: Text - First - State Prescription Drug Benefits - Retirees (January 15, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Senator Mike McKay (R) Committee: Budget and Taxation (Senate)

Summary:

Authorizing certain retirees who began State service before July 1, 2011, to be eligible for prescription drug benefits in the State Employee and Retiree Health and Welfare Benefits Program; specifying that prescription drug benefits shall be discontinued for certain Medicare-eligible retirees who began State service on or after July 1, 2011, and their Medicare-eligible spouses and dependent children; repealing three Maryland State Retiree Prescription Drug programs that provide coverage and assistance to certain retirees; etc.

MD - SB371 Maryland Medical Assistance Program - Provider Agencies and Personal Care Aides - Reimbursement and Wage Reports (Homecare Workers Livable Wage Act of 2024)

Last Action: Text - First - Maryland Medical Assistance Program - Provider Agencies and Personal Care Aides - Reimbursement and Wage Reports (Homecare Workers Livable Wage Act of 2024) (January 17, 2024)

Primary Sponsor: Senator Clarence K. Lam (D)

Committee: Finance (Senate)

Scheduled Hearing: Finance (Senate)

Date: February 6, 2024 **Time:** 1:00pm (EST)

Location: East Miller Senate Building, Room 3, Annapolis, MD

Summary:

Requiring provider agencies to submit certain reports to the Maryland Department of Labor regarding wage rates for personal care aides on or before September 1 each year, beginning in 2025; and requiring, by September 30, 2024, and every 2 years thereafter, the Maryland Department of Health to submit reports to the Senate Finance Committee and the House Health and Government

Operations Committee regarding reimbursement rates for provider agencies and any recommended regulatory or legislative changes.

MD - SB388 Prescription Drug Affordability Board - Authority for Upper Payment Limits and Funding (Lowering Prescription Drug Costs for All Marylanders Act of 2024)

Last Action: Text - First - Prescription Drug Affordability Board - Authority for Upper Payment Limits and Funding (Lowering Prescription Drug Costs for All Marylanders Act of 2024) (January 18, 2024) Primary Sponsor: Senator Dawn Gile (D)

Cosponsors:

Senator Brian J. Feldman (D)

Senator Pamela Beidle (D)

Senator Arthur Ellis (D)

Senator Guy Guzzone (D)

Senator Katie Fry Hester (D)

Senator Shelly Hettleman (D)

Senator Michael A. Jackson (D)

Senator Katherine Klausmeier (D)

Senator Benjamin F. Kramer (D)

Senator Clarence K. Lam (D)

Committees:

Budget and Taxation (Senate)

Finance (Senate)

Summary:

Requiring the Governor in fiscal year 2025 and each fiscal year thereafter to include in the annual budget bill an appropriation of at least \$1,000,000 for the Prescription Drug Affordability Fund which provides funding for the Board; and requiring the Board, under certain circumstances, to establish a process for setting upper payment limits for all purchases and payor reimbursements of prescription drug products in the State that the Board determines have led or will lead to affordability challenges.

Cross-filed Bill: HB340