



MedChi

The Maryland State Medical Society

Your Advocate. Your Resource. Your Profession.

MedChi Legislative Newsletter

Your Guide to Health Care Legislation

During the 2023 Legislative Session

January 18, 2023

MedChi, The Maryland State Medical Society
1211 Cathedral Street | Baltimore, Maryland 21201

James J. York, MD
President, MedChi

Clement S. Banda, MD
Co-Chair, MedChi Council on Legislation

Kathleen D. Keeffe Hough, MD
Co-Chair, MedChi Council on Legislation

Chip O'Neil
Advocacy Coordinator, MedChi
Email: coneil@medchi.org | Phone: 410-878-9599

MedChi Boards and Commissions Report

Bill	Title	Synopsis	Sponsor	Status	Origin	Opposite	Notes
SB 13	Family Law - Custody Evaluators - Qualifications and Training	Requiring that an individual meet certain educational and experiential requirements in order to be appointed or approved by a court as a custody evaluator; requiring that, beginning October 1, 2024, an individual complete 20 hours of initial training in certain areas in order to be appointed or approved by a court as a custody evaluator; requiring that an individual receive 5 hours of ongoing education and training every 2 years in order to continue to be appointed or approved by a court as a custody evaluator; etc.	Carozza	In the Senate - Hearing 1/31 at 1:00 p.m.	Judicial Proceedings Tue 1/31 1:00 PM		No Position
SB 64	HIV Prevention Drugs - Prescribing and Dispensing by Pharmacists and Insurance Requirements	Authorizing pharmacists to prescribe and dispense postexposure prophylaxis for HIV prevention to patients under certain circumstances; prohibiting managed care organizations, insurers, nonprofit health service plans, and health maintenance organizations from requiring prior authorization for preexposure prophylaxis for HIV prevention or step therapy or cost-sharing for preexposure prophylaxis for HIV prevention or postexposure prophylaxis for HIV prevention; etc.	Lam	In the Senate - Hearing 1/31 at 1:00 p.m.	Finance Tue 1/31 1:00 PM		Oppose
SB 78	Health Occupations - Service Members, Veterans, and Military Spouses - Temporary Licensure, Certification, Registration, and Permitting	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 certain information on its website; etc.	Jackson	In the Senate - Hearing 1/31 at 1:00 p.m.	Finance Tue 1/31 1:00 PM		No Position

MedChi Health Insurance Report

Bill	Title	Synopsis	Sponsor	Status	Origin	Opposite	Notes
HB 107 (SB 59)	Maryland Health Benefit Exchange - Small Employers - Special Enrollment Period and Marketing	Requiring the Maryland Health Benefit Exchange to open a special enrollment period for individuals who become employed by a small employer that does not offer employer-sponsored health benefit plans and the individuals' dependents; altering the amount of funds required to be appropriated to the Maryland Health Benefit Fund in certain fiscal years; and requiring certain funds to be allocated for marketing and outreach to small employers and nonprofit employers and their employees to facilitate enrollment in health insurance coverage.	R. Lewis	In the House - First Reading Health and Government Operations	Health and Government Operations		
SB 59 (HB 107)	Maryland Health Benefit Exchange - Small Employers - Special Enrollment Period and Marketing	Requiring the Maryland Health Benefit Exchange to open a special enrollment period for individuals who become employed by a small employer that does not offer employer-sponsored health benefit plans and the individuals' dependents; altering the amount of funds required to be appropriated to the Maryland Health Benefit Fund in certain fiscal years; and requiring certain funds to be allocated for marketing, outreach, and programs to small employers and nonprofit employers and their employees for a certain purpose.	Hester	In the Senate - Hearing 2/01 at 1:00 p.m.	Finance Wed 2/1 1:00 PM		
SB 75	Insurance and Maryland Medical Assistance Program - Treatment of Alopecia Areata - Coverage Requirements	Requiring the Maryland Medical Assistance Program, subject to a certain limitation, to provide coverage for hair prostheses to Program recipients whose hair loss results from alopecia areata and prescription drugs and medical devices approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration for the treatment of alopecia areata; and requiring certain insurers, nonprofit health service plans, and health maintenance organizations to provide coverage for a hair prosthesis for hair loss resulting from alopecia areata.	Carter	In the Senate - Hearing 2/01 at 1:00 p.m.	Finance Wed 2/1 1:00 PM		Support

MedChi Health Insurance Report

Bill	Title	Synopsis	Sponsor	Status	Origin	Opposite	Notes
SB 108	Health Insurance - Annual Behavioral Health Wellness Visits - Coverage and Reimbursement	Requiring certain health insurers, nonprofit health service plans, and health maintenance organizations to provide coverage and certain reimbursement for annual behavioral health wellness visits.	Augustine	In the Senate - Hearing 2/01 at 1:00 p.m.	Finance Wed 2/1 1:00 PM		TBD

MedChi Public Health Report

Bill	Title	Synopsis	Sponsor	Status	Origin	Opposite	Notes
HB 9 (SB 19)	Equity in Transportation Sector - Guidelines and Analyses	Requiring that equity be considered when State transportation plans, reports, and goals are developed; altering the membership of the advisory committee on State transportation goals; requiring the Maryland Department of Transportation to conduct transit equity analyses, cost-benefit analyses, and consult with certain communities before announcing or proposing any major service change or any reduction or cancellation of a certain capital expansion project in the construction program; etc.	Ruth	In the House - First Reading Environment and Transportation	Environment and Transportation		Support
HB 12 (SB 151)	Equitable and Inclusive Transit-Oriented Development Enhancement Act	Establishing the Transit-Oriented Development Capital Grant and Revolving Loan Fund to promote the equitable and inclusive development of transit-oriented developments; requiring interest earnings of the Fund to be credited to the Fund; authorizing the Department of Transportation to use the Fund to provide financial assistance to local jurisdictions; requiring the Governor to include in the annual budget bill an appropriation sufficient to ensure a fund balance of at \$10,000,000 at the start of the fiscal year; etc.	J. Lewis	In the House - First Reading Environment and Transportation and Ways and Means	Environment and Transportation; Ways and Means		
HB 44	Correctional Services - Pregnant Incarcerated Individuals - Substance Use Disorder Assessment and Treatment	Requiring that a pregnant incarcerated individual be screened for substance use disorder at intake, regardless of the jurisdiction or the length of the individual's sentence, be referred to health care providers, and be provided with certain medications and treatment; requiring a correctional unit to arrange for health insurance coverage and follow-up health care before release of a pregnant incarcerated individual; and requiring that a pregnant incarcerated individual be provided with medical records on release.	Lopez	In the House - First Reading Judiciary	Judiciary		

MedChi Public Health Report

Bill	Title	Synopsis	Sponsor	Status	Origin	Opposite	Notes
HB 48 (SB 101)	Maryland Medical Assistance Program - Collaborative Care Model Services - Implementation and Reimbursement Expansion	Repealing the Collaborative Care Pilot Program; and requiring the Maryland Department of Health to expand access to and provide reimbursement for services provided in accordance with the Collaborative Care Model under the Maryland Medical Assistance Program.	Bagnall	In the House - First Reading Health and Government Operations	Health and Government Operations		Support
HB 69	Education - Student Behavior - Parent and Guardian Notice and Required Counseling (Parent and Guardian Accountability Act)	Establishing that it is unlawful for a parent or guardian of a student in a public school to fail to seek and participate in counseling with the parent's or guardian's child after receiving notice of violent and disruptive behavior; and requiring a public school principal to provide written notice to the parent or guardian of a student who engages in two or more incidents of violent and disruptive behavior in a public school during the school year.	R. Long	In the House - First Reading Ways and Means	Ways and Means		No Position
HB 82	Maryland Medical Assistance and Children's Health Insurance Programs - School-Based Behavioral Health Services - Reimbursement	Requiring, on or before December 1, 2023, the Maryland Department of Health to apply to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services for a State plan amendment authorizing certain reimbursement of behavioral health services when provided in a school setting by certain health care providers under the Maryland Medical Assistance Program or the Maryland Children's Health Insurance Program.	Charkoudian	In the House - First Reading Health and Government Operations	Health and Government Operations		Support

MedChi Public Health Report

Bill	Title	Synopsis	Sponsor	Status	Origin	Opposite	Notes
HB 87 (SB 52)	Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Programs - Waiver - Diapers and Menstrual Hygiene Products	Requiring the Department of Human Services to apply for a waiver to allow benefits under the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program or the Special Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program for Women, Infants, and Children to be used to purchase diapers or menstrual hygiene products, if the U.S. Department of Agriculture makes the waiver available.	Stewart	In the House - Hearing 1/24 at 1:00 p.m.	Appropriations Tue 1/24 1:00 PM		
HB 111 (SB 26)	Maryland Medical Assistance Program, Maryland Children's Health Program, and Social Services Programs - Eligibility and Enrollment	Requiring the Maryland Department of Health to establish an Express Lane Eligibility Program by January 1, 2025, to enroll individuals, based on certain eligibility, in the Maryland Medical Assistance Program and the Maryland Children's Health Program; requiring the Department of Human Services to enroll individuals, based on certain eligibility, in the Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program; requiring the Office of Home Energy Programs to enroll certain individuals in certain energy assistance programs; etc.	Charkoudian	In the House - First Reading Health and Government Operations	Health and Government Operations		Support
HB 119	Primary and Secondary Education - Comprehensive Health Education Framework - Established	Requiring the State Department of Education, in collaboration with the Maryland Department of Health, to develop a comprehensive health education framework; requiring each county board of education to create an age-appropriate curriculum that is consistent with the comprehensive health education framework; requiring each county board to establish a method by which a parent or guardian may opt out of certain topics, subject to certain requirements; etc.	Atterbeary	In the House - First Reading Ways and Means	Ways and Means		Support

MedChi Public Health Report

Bill	Title	Synopsis	Sponsor	Status	Origin	Opposite	Notes
HB 121 (SB 8)	Mental Health - Treatment Plans for Individuals in Facilities - Requirements	Requiring a treatment plan for an individual with a mental disorder admitted to a certain health care facility to include a certain discharge goal and an estimate of the probable length of the inpatient stay the individual requires before transfer to a certain setting; requiring certain facility staff to review and reassess a plan of treatment within certain time periods; requiring a certain health care facility to take certain actions if the facility is unable to address certain needs under a plan of treatment; etc.	Charkoudian	In the House - First Reading Health and Government Operations	Health and Government Operations		Oppose
HB 155	Genetic Testing - Prohibitions on Disability, Life, and Long-Term Care Insurance and Educational Materials (Genetic Testing Protection Act of 2023)	Prohibiting 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 policy or contract holder has requested or undergone genetic testing or the results of the genetic testing; and requiring the Maryland Department of Health to review and update certain materials relating to the benefits of genetic testing and the impact of testing on access to certain insurance policies and contracts by April 1, 2024.	Kipke	In the House - First Reading Health and Government Operations	Health and Government Operations		
SB 3	9-8-8 Trust Fund - Funding	Requiring the Governor to include in the annual budget bill for fiscal year 2025 an appropriation of \$12,000,000 to the 9-8-8 Trust Fund.	Augustine	In the Senate - Hearing 1/19 at 1:30 p.m.	Budget and Taxation Thu 1/19 1:30 PM		Support

MedChi Public Health Report

Bill	Title	Synopsis	Sponsor	Status	Origin	Opposite	Notes
SB 8 (HB 121)	Mental Health - Treatment Plans for Individuals in Facilities - Requirements	Requiring a treatment plan for an individual with a mental disorder admitted to a certain health care facility to include a certain discharge goal and an estimate of the probable length of the inpatient stay the individual requires before transfer to a certain setting; requiring certain facility staff to review and reassess a plan of treatment within certain time periods; requiring a certain health care facility to take certain actions if the facility is unable to address certain needs under a plan of treatment; etc.	Augustine	In the Senate - Hearing 1/31 at 1:00 p.m.	Finance Tue 1/31 1:00 PM		Oppose
SB 19 (HB 9)	Equity in Transportation Sector - Guidelines and Analyses	Requiring that equity be considered when State transportation plans, reports, and goals are developed; altering the membership of the advisory committee on State transportation goals; requiring the Department of Transportation to conduct transit equity analyses, cost-benefit analyses, and consult with certain communities before announcing or proposing any major service change or any reduction or cancellation of a certain capital expansion project in the construction program; etc.	Carter	In the Senate - Hearing 2/01 at 1:00 p.m.	Finance Wed 2/1 1:00 PM		Support
SB 26 (HB 111)	Maryland Medical Assistance Program, Maryland Children's Health Program, and Social Services Programs - Eligibility and Enrollment	Requiring the Maryland Department of Health to establish an Express Lane Eligibility Program by January 1, 2025, to enroll individuals, based on certain eligibility, in the Maryland Medical Assistance Program and the Maryland Children's Health Program; requiring the Department of Human Services to enroll individuals, based on certain eligibility, in the Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program; requiring the Office of Home Energy Programs to enroll certain individuals in certain energy assistance programs; etc.	Augustine	In the Senate - Hearing 2/02 at 1:00 p.m.	Finance Thu 2/2 1:00 PM		Support

MedChi Public Health Report

Bill	Title	Synopsis	Sponsor	Status	Origin	Opposite	Notes
SB 52 (HB 87)	Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Programs - Waiver - Diapers and Menstrual Hygiene Products	Requiring the Department of Human Services to apply for a waiver to allow benefits under the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program or the Special Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program to be used to purchase diapers or menstrual hygiene products, if the U.S. Department of Agriculture makes the waiver available.	Elfreth	In the Senate - Hearing 2/02 at 1:00 p.m.	Finance Thu 2/2 1:00 PM		
SB 101 (HB 48)	Maryland Medical Assistance Program - Collaborative Care Model Services - Implementation and Reimbursement Expansion	Repealing the Collaborative Care Pilot Program; and requiring the Maryland Department of Health to expand access to and provide reimbursement for services provided in accordance with the Collaborative Care Model under the Maryland Medical Assistance Program.	Augustine	In the Senate - Hearing 1/31 at 1:00 p.m.	Finance Tue 1/31 1:00 PM		Support
SB 107	Correctional Services - Pregnant Incarcerated Individuals - Substance Use Disorder Assessment and Treatment	Requiring that a pregnant incarcerated individual be screened for substance use disorder at intake regardless of the jurisdiction or the length of the individual's sentence, be referred to health care providers, and be provided with certain medications and treatment; requiring a correctional unit to arrange for health insurance coverage and follow-up health care before release of a pregnant incarcerated individual; and requiring that a pregnant incarcerated individual be provided with medical records on release.	Lee	In the Senate - First Reading Judicial Proceedings	Judicial Proceedings		

MedChi Public Health Report

Bill	Title	Synopsis	Sponsor	Status	Origin	Opposite	Notes
SB 151 (HB 12)	Equitable and Inclusive Transit-Oriented Development Enhancement Act	Establishing the Transit-Oriented Development Capital Grant and Revolving Loan Fund to promote the equitable and inclusive development of transit-oriented developments; requiring interest earnings of the Fund to be credited to the Fund; authorizing the Department of Transportation to use the Fund to provide financial assistance to local jurisdictions; requiring the Governor to include in the annual budget bill an appropriation sufficient to ensure a fund balance of at \$10,000,000 at the start of the fiscal year; etc.	Augustine	In the Senate - Hearing 1/25 at 2:00 p.m.	Budget and Taxation Wed 1/25 2:00 PM		
SB 154	Public Health - Mental Health Advance Directives - Awareness and Statewide Database	Requiring the Maryland Department of Health to develop and implement a public awareness campaign to encourage the use of mental health advance directives in the State; requiring the Behavioral Health Administration to study the feasibility and cost of establishing a centralized statewide database of mental health advance directives; and requiring the Behavioral Health Administration to report to the certain committees of the General Assembly on the findings of the study by December 1, 2023.	Beidle	In the Senate - First Reading Finance	Finance		

MedChi FYI Report

Bill	Title	Synopsis	Sponsor	Status	Origin	Opposite	Notes
HB 25	Public Health - Healthy Maryland Program - Establishment	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, 2025; 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.	Acevero	In the House - First Reading Health and Government Operations	Health and Government Operations		
HB 59	Health and Wellness Standards - Correctional Facilities	Requiring the Secretary of Public Safety and Correctional Services, with the advice of the Secretary of Health, to update certain minimum mandatory standards for inmate food services to reflect certain practices and guidelines; establishing the Correctional Facilities Health and Wellness Pilot Program to establish minimum mandatory standards for inmate food services in facilities participating in the Program; and requiring the Secretary of Health to adopt health and wellness standards for certain facilities.	Hill	In the House - First Reading Health and Government Operations and Judiciary	Health and Government Operations; Judiciary		