

News: For Immediate Release  
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### **MORE HEALTH MEASURES TO TAKE EFFECT JULY 1**

BALTIMORE – June 26, 2025 – Several key health measures took effect on June 1 and now more health measures will take effect on July 1, 2025. MedChi regularly monitors all health-related legislation every year during and outside of the Legislative session.

- House Bill 12 will authorize officers and employees of the Field Enforcement Division of the Alcohol, Tobacco, and Cannabis Commission to issue a citation for a violation of the Criminal Law Article and will prohibit the sale or distribution of products that contain or are advertised as containing tetrahydrocannabinol.
- House Bill 62 will provide that provisions of law regarding chemical warfare material requirements under a controlled hazardous substance facility permit do not apply to the incineration of chemical warfare materials at a research facility if the incineration is done for research, development, or demonstration purposes.
- House Bill 94 will authorize a local health department or community-based organization to appeal to the Secretary of Health or the Secretary's designee rather than to the Deputy Secretary for Public Health Services.
- House Bill 128 will require the Comptroller to conduct a study to assess the total cost of greenhouse gas emissions in MD and report findings to committees by December 1, 2026, on the total assessed cost of greenhouse gas emissions in MD based on the findings of the study.
- House Bill 132 will extend the time period from July 1, 2025 to July 1, 2026, that a holder of a cannabis dispensary license may continue to deliver medical cannabis. It will also limit application submissions for on-site consumption licenses to social equity applicants under circumstances, authorize a political subdivision to establish hours of operation for on-site consumption establishments, and provide that a food sales exemption from the sales and use tax does not apply to the sale of cannabinoid beverages.
- House Bill 602 will require the State Board of Nursing to hold discussions with Delaware, Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia, and the District of Columbia to pursue reciprocity agreements for advanced practice nursing licensure and specialty certification.
- House Bill 729 will alter the training that MDH is authorized to provide under the Overdose Response Program to include emphasis on the restoration of breathing, avoiding withdrawal, and compassionate post overdose support and care. It will also alter the authorized uses of the Opioid Restitution Fund to include the addressing of racial disparities in access to prevention, harm reduction, treatment, and recovery support services.

- House Bill 930 will establish the first in the Nation Public Health Abortion Grant Program to provide grants to improve access to abortion care clinical services for individuals in the State and require that ACA premium funds collected by health insurance carriers be used to provide coverage and to support improving access to abortion care clinical services.
- House Bill 956 will establish the Workgroup on Artificial Intelligence Implementation that will monitor and make recommendations related to the regulation of artificial intelligence, consumer protection, current private sector use of artificial intelligence, enforcement authority for the Office of the Attorney General's Office of Consumer Protection, and impact in the determination of government benefits.
- House Bill 1104 will clarify that electronic health care transactions information may be used to support the participation of the State in the States Advancing All-Payer Health Equity Approaches and Development (AHEAD) Model and any successor models. It will also establish the Population Health Improvement Fund to support the statewide population health targets under the AHEAD Model and any successor models and will authorize the Health Services Cost Review Commission to assess a uniform and reasonable amount in hospital rates to be credited to the Fund.
- House Bill 1131 will establish the Buprenorphine Training Grant Program to assist counties offset the cost of training paramedics to administer buprenorphine and will require the Governor to include an appropriation of at least \$50,000 from the Opioid Restitution Fund for the Program in the annual budget bill.
- House Bill 1146 will require the Maryland Behavioral Health Crisis Response System to have a State 9-8-8 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline, rather than a crisis communication center, in each jurisdiction and for it to coordinate with the national 9-8-8 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline Network to provide supportive counseling, suicide prevention, crisis intervention, referrals to additional resources, and direct dispatch to other services as needed.
- House Bill 1388 (2024 legislation) will state healthcare professionals providing direct patient care total with compensation less than or equal to \$350,000 a year will have all noncompete and conflict-of-interest clauses void upon contract execution on or after July 1, 2025. Those with total compensation greater than \$350,000 a year may include non-competes, but are limited to one a year post-employment and 10 miles from the primary workplace.
- Senate Bill 310 will alter the requirements of the Youth Suicide Prevention School Program to increase pupil awareness of the relationship between gambling and youth suicide.

“MedChi strongly supports the focus on mental health, overdose prevention, and other critical public health priorities in these new measures — this is exactly the kind of new direction Maryland needs right now,” said MedChi CEO Gene Ransom.

For a full summary of Maryland legislation passed this General Assembly, [please click here](#).

#### About MedChi

MedChi, The Maryland State Medical Society, is a non-profit membership association of Maryland physicians. It is the largest physician organization in Maryland. The mission of MedChi is to serve as Maryland foremost advocate and resource for physicians, their patients and the public health of Maryland. For more information, please visit [www.medchi.org](http://www.medchi.org).