

SENATE BILL 592

J1, J2

4lr2288
CF HB 1257

By: ~~Senator Jones Rodwell~~ Senators Jones Rodwell, Conway, Astle, Brinkley, Feldman, Glassman, Kelley, Kittleman, Klausmeier, Mathias, Middleton, Pugh, and Ramirez

Introduced and read first time: January 30, 2014
Assigned to: Finance

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments
Senate action: Adopted
Read second time: March 13, 2014

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 ~~Department of Health and Mental Hygiene Community Health Workers~~
3 ~~Certification and Reimbursement~~

4 Workgroup on Workforce Development for Community Health Workers

5 FOR the purpose of requiring the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene ~~to adopt~~
6 ~~regulations, on or before a certain date, that establish certification criteria and~~
7 ~~reimbursement and payment policies for community health workers; requiring~~
8 ~~the Department, if applicable, to receive certain approval from the federal~~
9 ~~Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services; requiring the Department and the~~
10 Maryland Insurance Administration to establish a certain stakeholder
11 workgroup; requiring, to the extent practicable, a certain minimum percentage
12 of the membership of the workgroup to be composed of certain individuals;
13 requiring the workgroup to conduct a certain study and make certain
14 recommendations; requiring the workgroup to report its findings and
15 recommendations to certain committees of the General Assembly on or before a
16 certain date; and generally relating to community health workers.

17 ~~BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,~~
18 ~~Article Health General~~
19 ~~Section 15-101(a) and (h)~~
20 ~~Annotated Code of Maryland~~
21 ~~(2009 Replacement Volume and 2013 Supplement)~~

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



1 ~~BY adding to~~
 2 ~~Article Health General~~
 3 ~~Section 15-148~~
 4 ~~Annotated Code of Maryland~~
 5 ~~(2009 Replacement Volume and 2013 Supplement)~~

6 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
 7 MARYLAND, That ~~the Laws of Maryland read as follows:~~

8 ~~Article Health General~~

9 ~~15-101.~~

10 (a) ~~In this title the following words have the meanings indicated.~~

11 (h) ~~“Program” means the Maryland Medical Assistance Program.~~

12 ~~15-148.~~

13 (A) ~~ON OR BEFORE JANUARY 1, 2015, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ADOPT~~
 14 ~~REGULATIONS THAT ESTABLISH:~~

15 (1) ~~CRITERIA FOR CERTIFYING COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKERS~~
 16 ~~AS NONCLINICAL HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS; AND~~

17 (2) ~~PROGRAM REIMBURSEMENT AND PAYMENT POLICIES FOR~~
 18 ~~COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKERS.~~

19 (B) ~~THE CRITERIA FOR CERTIFYING COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKERS~~
 20 ~~UNDER SUBSECTION (A)(1) OF THIS SECTION SHALL REQUIRE:~~

21 (1) ~~RECEIPT OF A CERTIFICATE FROM A COMMUNITY HEALTH~~
 22 ~~WORKER CURRICULUM PROGRAM THAT IS APPROVED BY THE DEPARTMENT; OR~~

23 (2) ~~COMPLETION OF COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKER CORE~~
 24 ~~COMPETENCIES THAT INCLUDE AN INITIAL 80 HOURS OF INTENSIVE TRAINING~~
 25 ~~AND 20 COMBINED HOURS OF CONTINUED EDUCATION EVERY 2 YEARS IN THE~~
 26 ~~FOLLOWING AREAS:~~

27 (i) ~~THE COMMUNITY HEALTH ROLE;~~

28 (ii) ~~ORGANIZATION AND RESOURCES;~~

29 (iii) ~~LEGAL AND ETHICAL RESPONSIBILITIES;~~

- 1 ~~(IV) COORDINATION, DOCUMENTATION, AND REPORTING;~~
 2 ~~(V) COMMUNICATION SKILLS AND CULTURAL~~
 3 ~~COMPETENCE;~~
 4 ~~(VI) THE ROLE OF THE COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKER IN~~
 5 ~~HEALTH PROMOTION;~~
 6 ~~(VII) ACCESSING MEDICATIONS AND CARE RESOURCES;~~
 7 ~~(VIII) ADHERENCE TO TREATMENT BY NONCOMPLIANT~~
 8 ~~PATIENTS;~~
 9 ~~(IX) PERSONAL CARE AND STRESS;~~
 10 ~~(X) COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKER SKILLS; AND~~
 11 ~~(XI) CORE DISEASE AND HEALTH ISSUE TRAINING.~~

12 ~~(C) IF APPLICABLE, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL SEEK ANY APPROVAL~~
 13 ~~NECESSARY FROM THE FEDERAL CENTERS FOR MEDICARE AND MEDICAID~~
 14 ~~SERVICES TO AUTHORIZE THE DEPARTMENT TO REIMBURSE COMMUNITY~~
 15 ~~HEALTH WORKERS FOR PROVIDING PREVENTIVE SERVICES.~~

16 ~~SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That:~~

17 (a) The Department of Health and Mental Hygiene and the Maryland
 18 Insurance Administration jointly shall establish a stakeholder workgroup on
 19 workforce development for community health workers.

20 (b) To the extent practicable, at least 50% of the membership of the
 21 workgroup shall be composed of individuals who:

- 22 (1) are directly involved in the provision of nonclinical health care; or
 23 (2) represent an institution or organization that is directly involved in
 24 the provision of nonclinical health care.

25 ~~(b)~~ (c) The workgroup shall study and make recommendations regarding:

26 (1) the training and credentialing required for community health
 27 workers to be certified as nonclinical health care providers; and

28 (2) reimbursement and payment policies for community health
 29 workers through the Maryland Medical Assistance Program and private insurers.

1 ~~(e)~~ (d) On or before December 1, 2014, the workgroup shall report its findings
 2 and recommendations, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State Government Article,
 3 to the Senate Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee, the Senate
 4 Finance Committee, and the House Health and Government Operations Committee.

5 SECTION ~~3~~ 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take
 6 effect June 1, 2014.

Approved:

Governor.

President of the Senate.

Speaker of the House of Delegates.