

# HOUSE BILL 1443

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By: **Delegate Flanagan**

Introduced and read first time: February 9, 2018

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Public Health – Asthma Hot Spot Elimination Grant Program**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing the Asthma Hot Spot Elimination Grant Program;  
4 providing for the purpose of the Program; requiring the Maryland Department of  
5 Health to administer the Program; requiring an applicant to submit a certain  
6 application to the Department to qualify for a grant under the Program; requiring  
7 the Department to award grants on a certain basis and prioritize awarding grants  
8 on a certain basis; requiring the Department to adopt certain regulations; defining a  
9 certain term; providing for the termination of this Act; and generally relating to the  
10 Asthma Hot Spot Elimination Grant Program.

11 BY adding to

12 Article – Health – General

13 Section 24–1501 to be under the new subtitle “Subtitle 15. Asthma Hot Spot  
14 Elimination Grant Program”

15 Annotated Code of Maryland

16 (2015 Replacement Volume and 2017 Supplement)

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

19 **Article – Health – General**

20 **SUBTITLE 15. ASTHMA HOT SPOT ELIMINATION GRANT PROGRAM.**

21 **24–1501.**

22 (A) IN THIS SECTION, “ASTHMA HOT SPOT” MEANS AN AREA WITH A  
23 POPULATION THAT SUFFERS FROM HIGHER THAN AVERAGE RATES OF ASTHMA AND  
24 ASTHMA–RELATED ILLNESSES.

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1           **(B) THERE IS AN ASTHMA HOT SPOT ELIMINATION GRANT PROGRAM IN**  
2 **THE DEPARTMENT.**

3           **(C) THE PURPOSE OF THE PROGRAM IS TO AWARD GRANTS TO**  
4 **ORGANIZATIONS, INCLUDING NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS, HOSPITALS, AND**  
5 **HEALTH CARE FACILITIES, TO DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT PROGRAMS AIMED AT**  
6 **REDUCING OR ELIMINATING ASTHMA HOT SPOTS AND REDUCING THE USE OF**  
7 **EMERGENCY DEPARTMENTS IN ASTHMA HOT SPOTS.**

8           **(D) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ADMINISTER THE PROGRAM.**

9           **(E) TO QUALIFY FOR A GRANT UNDER THE PROGRAM, AN APPLICANT MUST**  
10 **SUBMIT AN APPLICATION TO THE DEPARTMENT FOR DEVELOPING AND**  
11 **IMPLEMENTING A PROGRAM THAT:**

12                   **(1) AIMS TO REDUCE OR ELIMINATE ASTHMA HOT SPOTS ON A LOCAL**  
13 **OR STATEWIDE BASIS;**

14                   **(2) AIMS TO REDUCE THE NUMBER AND FREQUENCY OF EMERGENCY**  
15 **DEPARTMENT VISITS FOR ASTHMA OR ASTHMA-RELATED ILLNESSES IN ASTHMA**  
16 **HOT SPOTS; AND**

17                   **(3) INCLUDES A PROCESS FOR MEASURING OUTCOMES OF THE**  
18 **PROGRAM.**

19           **(F) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL:**

20                   **(1) AWARD GRANTS ON A COMPETITIVE BASIS; AND**

21                   **(2) PRIORITIZE AWARDED GRANTS TO PROGRAMS BASED ON**  
22 **MEASURABLE OUTCOMES.**

23           **(G) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ADOPT REGULATIONS TO CARRY OUT THIS**  
24 **SECTION.**

25           SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
26 October 1, 2018. It shall remain effective for a period of 5 years and, at the end of September  
27 30, 2023, this Act, with no further action required by the General Assembly, shall be  
28 abrogated and of no further force and effect.