

Chapter 477

(Senate Bill 970)

AN ACT concerning

Maryland Department of Health – Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children – Reports

FOR the purpose of requiring the Maryland Department of Health, ~~in consultation with certain stakeholders,~~ to report certain information regarding the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children to certain committees of the General Assembly on or before a certain date each year; requiring the Department, in producing the report, to consult with certain stakeholders; providing for the termination of this Act; and generally relating to the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children.

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That:

(a) On or before December 1, 2019, and each year thereafter, the Maryland Department of Health, ~~after consultation with the Maryland Alliance for the Poor, local health departments, MedChi, the Maryland State Medical Society, and other interested stakeholders,~~ shall submit a report on the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) to the Senate Budget and Taxation Committee, the Senate Finance Committee, the House Appropriations Committee, and the House Health and Government Operations Committee, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State Government Article.

(b) The report shall include:

(1) for the previous fiscal year, by jurisdiction:

(i) the number of women, infants, and children receiving WIC; and

(ii) the number of women, infants, and children eligible for, but not receiving, WIC;

(2) by jurisdiction, the hours and locations of local WIC agencies;

(3) barriers to increasing program enrollment; ~~and~~

~~(3)~~ (4) an analysis of the adequacy of State WIC contracting and payment policies for meeting the resource needs of local health departments and private provider programs; and

(5) recommendations ~~on~~ of changes to program policies and procedures to:

- (i) increase participation rates; and
 - (ii) meet local resource and capacity needs.
- (c) In producing the report, the Department shall consult with:
 - (1) the Maryland Alliance for the Poor;
 - (2) local health departments;
 - (3) MedChi, the Maryland State Medical Society;
 - (4) the Maryland Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics;
 - (5) the Mid-Atlantic Association of Community Health Centers; and
 - (6) other interested stakeholders.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June 1, 2019. It shall remain effective for a period of 3 years and 1 month and, at the end of June 30, 2022, this Act, with no further action required by the General Assembly, shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.

Approved by the Governor, May 13, 2019.