

# SENATE BILL 940

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CF HB 1020

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By: **Senator Hayes**

Introduced and read first time: February 3, 2020

Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Health Services Initiative – Vision Care for Low–Income Children**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring the Maryland Department of Health, under certain  
4 circumstances, to establish a certain Health Services Initiative; requiring the Health  
5 Services Initiative to apply to certain individuals, require certain schools to provide  
6 certain services, offer services from certain providers, and require the Department  
7 to reimburse certain providers in a certain manner for certain services; requiring, on  
8 or before a certain date, the Department to apply to the Centers for Medicare and  
9 Medicaid Services for a State Health Plan amendment to implement a certain Health  
10 Services Initiative; and generally relating to a Health Services Initiative for vision  
11 care for low–income children in the State.

12 BY adding to

13 Article – Health – General  
14 Section 15–150  
15 Annotated Code of Maryland  
16 (2019 Replacement Volume)

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 **15–150.**

21 **(A) IF AUTHORIZED UNDER FEDERAL LAW, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL**  
22 **ESTABLISH A HEALTH SERVICES INITIATIVE TO IMPROVE ACCESS TO VISION**  
23 **SCREENINGS, EYE EXAMINATIONS, AND EYEGASSES THROUGH COUNTY PROGRAMS**  
24 **THAT DELIVER VISION SERVICES IN SCHOOLS.**

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1           **(B) THE HEALTH SERVICES INITIATIVE ESTABLISHED UNDER SUBSECTION**  
2 **(A) OF THIS SECTION SHALL:**

3           **(1) APPLY TO INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE:**

4                   **(I) UNDER THE AGE OF 19 YEARS; AND**

5                   **(II) ENROLLED AT A SCHOOL:**

6                           **1. THAT IS A PUBLIC SCHOOL CATEGORIZED AS A TITLE**  
7 **I SCHOOL IN THE STATE;**

8                           **2. IN WHICH AT LEAST 51% OF THE STUDENT BODY**  
9 **RECEIVES FREE OR REDUCED PRICE MEALS; AND**

10                           **3. IN A COUNTY THAT HAS A PROGRAM TO PROVIDE**  
11 **EXPANDED VISION SERVICES TO STUDENTS;**

12           **(2) REQUIRE EACH SCHOOL PARTICIPATING IN THE HEALTH**  
13 **SERVICES INITIATIVE TO PROVIDE:**

14                   **(I) VISION SCREENINGS TO ALL STUDENTS;**

15                   **(II) EYE EXAMINATIONS TO STUDENTS WHO FAIL THE VISION**  
16 **SCREENING UNDER ITEM (I) OF THIS ITEM; AND**

17                   **(III) CORRECTIVE LENSES AND EYEGLOSS FRAMES TO THOSE**  
18 **STUDENTS WHO ARE DETERMINED TO BE IN NEED;**

19           **(3) OFFER SERVICES FROM PROVIDERS WHO PARTICIPATE IN THE**  
20 **PROGRAM OR THE CHILDREN'S HEALTH INSURANCE PROGRAM; AND**

21           **(4) REQUIRE THE DEPARTMENT TO REIMBURSE PROVIDERS**  
22 **THROUGH THE HEALTH SERVICES INITIATIVE ESTABLISHED UNDER SUBSECTION**  
23 **(A) OF THIS SECTION FOR SERVICES PROVIDED UNDER THIS SUBSECTION TO**  
24 **INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE NOT ENROLLED IN THE PROGRAM, THE MARYLAND**  
25 **CHILDREN'S HEALTH INSURANCE PROGRAM, OR ANY OTHER HEALTH INSURANCE**  
26 **THAT COVERS VISION SERVICES.**

27           SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, on or before July 1, 2020, the  
28 Maryland Department of Health shall apply to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid  
29 Services for a State Health Plan amendment to implement a Health Services Initiative, as  
30 authorized under 42 U.S.C. § 1397ee(a)(1)(d)(ii), to increase access for low-income children  
31 to needed vision services and glasses in accordance with the requirements of this section.

1 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June  
2 1, 2020.