

SB0594/613024/1

BY: Finance Committee

AMENDMENTS TO SENATE BILL 594
(First Reading File Bill)

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 1, in line 2, after “**Obesity**” insert “– **Required Study**”; in line 3, after “of” insert “requiring the Maryland Department of Health to study the impact of requiring the Maryland Medical Assistance Program to provide comprehensive coverage for the treatment of obesity; and generally relating to a study of coverage for the treatment of obesity.”; and strike beginning with “requiring,” in line 3 down through “Volume)” in line 23.

AMENDMENT NO. 2

On page 1, after line 23, insert:

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

(a) (1) In this section the following words have the meanings indicated.

(2) “Comprehensive coverage for the treatment of obesity” includes coverage for intensive behavioral therapy, bariatric surgery, and FDA–approved antiobesity medication.

(3) “FDA–approved antiobesity medication” means any medication approved by the federal Food and Drug Administration with an indication for chronic weight management in patients with obesity.

(b) The Maryland Department of Health, in consultation with relevant stakeholders, including representatives of the American Board of Obesity Medicine, the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, and the University of Maryland School of

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Medicine, shall study the impact of requiring the Maryland Medical Assistance Program to provide comprehensive coverage for the treatment of obesity.

(c) In conducting the study, the Department shall:

(1) identify and compare the coverage for the treatment of obesity under medical assistance programs and other public health programs in other states; and

(2) examine and estimate any potential savings that may result from requiring comprehensive coverage for the treatment of obesity due to reductions in the use of medications and services currently covered under the Maryland Medical Assistance Program, including reductions in costs from weight-related comorbidities including cardiovascular disease, hypertension, sleep apnea, depression, asthma, nonalcoholic fatty liver disease, Type 2 diabetes, knee and hip osteoarthritis, and gout.

(d) On or before December 31, 2024, the Maryland Department of Health shall report its findings to the House Health and Government Operations Committee and the Senate Finance Committee, in accordance with § 2-1257 of the State Government Article.”

On pages 1 through 3, strike in their entirety the lines beginning with line 24 on page 1 through line 9 on page 3, inclusive.

On page 3, in line 10, strike “3.” and substitute “2.”; and in line 11, strike “October” and substitute “July”.