

# HOUSE BILL 1417

C8, J2

8lr2804

---

By: **Delegates Stein, Boteler, Cardin, Glenn, Morhaim, Shewell, and Weldon**  
Introduced and read first time: February 8, 2008  
Assigned to: Environmental Matters

---

## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Housing and Community Development - Program for Military Health Care**  
3 **Workers**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring the Department of Housing and Community  
5 Development to develop and administer a program that assists first-time home  
6 buyers who are current or former military health care workers to receive certain  
7 benefits; requiring the Department to consult the Department of Health and  
8 Mental Hygiene to establish incentives for the health care workers to  
9 participate in the program; requiring that participants in the program have  
10 certain training and experience and be in the health care workforce in the State  
11 or be in training to enter the workforce; requiring the Department to allow  
12 home buyers to use certain loans in a certain way and to require a home  
13 purchased under the program to be used as a principal residence; requiring the  
14 Department to facilitate the marketing of the program in a certain way and to  
15 adopt certain regulations; and generally relating to housing programs for  
16 current or former military health care workers.

17 BY adding to  
18 Article – Housing and Community Development  
19 Section 4–203.1  
20 Annotated Code of Maryland  
21 (2006 Volume and 2007 Supplement)

22 Preamble

23 WHEREAS, The General Assembly established a task force to address the  
24 barriers to transition of military health care workers into the civilian health care  
25 sector; and

---

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 WHEREAS, The task force in its report recommended that housing incentives  
2 be provided for military health care workers who wish to live in Maryland and work in  
3 the health care workforce; and

4 WHEREAS, Despite being home to many military installations and anticipating  
5 the arrival of additional workers resulting from the Base Realignment and Closure  
6 Commission initiative, Maryland has a difficult time tapping the experience of these  
7 individuals to meet an ever-growing demand for health care professionals in  
8 Maryland health care settings; now, therefore,

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

11 **Article - Housing and Community Development**

12 **4-203.1.**

13 **(A) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL:**

14 **(1) DEVELOP AND ADMINISTER A PROGRAM THAT ASSISTS**  
15 **FIRST-TIME HOME BUYERS WHO ARE CURRENT OR FORMER MILITARY HEALTH**  
16 **CARE WORKERS TO RECEIVE LOW-INTEREST MORTGAGE LOANS, WITH DOWN**  
17 **PAYMENT AND CLOSING COST ASSISTANCE OPTIONS, FOR THE PURCHASE OF**  
18 **HOMES; AND**

19 **(2) IN CONSULTATION WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND**  
20 **MENTAL HYGIENE ESTABLISH INCENTIVES FOR CURRENT OR FORMER**  
21 **MILITARY HEALTH CARE WORKERS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PROGRAM.**

22 **(B) AN INDIVIDUAL QUALIFIES FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE PROGRAM**  
23 **IF THE INDIVIDUAL:**

24 **(1) HAS TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE IN PROVIDING HEALTH**  
25 **CARE WHILE SERVING IN THE ARMED SERVICES OF THE UNITED STATES; AND**

26 **(2) HAS ENTERED OR IS IN TRAINING TO ENTER INTO THE**  
27 **HEALTH CARE WORKFORCE IN THE STATE.**

28 **(C) AS TO LOANS UNDER THIS PROGRAM, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL:**

29 **(1) ALLOW HOME BUYERS TO USE THE LOANS FOR THE PURCHASE**  
30 **OF NEWLY CONSTRUCTED OR EXISTING HOMES; AND**

31 **(2) REQUIRE A HOME PURCHASED UNDER THIS PROGRAM TO BE**  
32 **OCCUPIED BY THE HOME BUYER AS A PRINCIPAL RESIDENCE.**

1           **(D) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL FACILITATE THE MARKETING OF THE**  
2 **PROGRAM WITH PRIVATE EMPLOYERS AND COUNTY AND MUNICIPAL**  
3 **GOVERNMENTS, AND, WHERE APPROPRIATE, THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT,**  
4 **OTHER UNITS OF STATE GOVERNMENT, AND NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS.**

5           **(E) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ADOPT REGULATIONS TO IMPLEMENT**  
6 **THE PROGRAM ESTABLISHED UNDER THIS SECTION.**

7           SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
8 October 1, 2008.