

HOUSE BILL 419

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By: **Delegate Hubbard**

Introduced and read first time: February 2, 2009

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Maryland Health and Wellness Commission – Wellness Report Card Pilot**
3 **Program**

4 FOR the purpose of establishing the Maryland Health and Wellness Commission in
5 the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene; providing for the purpose of the
6 Commission; providing for the membership, staffing, and duties of the
7 Commission; requiring the Governor to designate the chair of the Commission;
8 establishing the Wellness Report Card Pilot Program; providing for the purpose
9 of the Pilot Program; requiring the Department to designate the entity to
10 establish a certain health report card; requiring the Wellness Report Card to
11 include a certain evaluation; providing for the termination of this Act; providing
12 that the Pilot Program shall be funded by private or federal grants; defining
13 certain terms; and generally relating to the Maryland Health and Wellness
14 Commission and the Wellness Report Card Pilot Program.

15 BY adding to

16 Article – Health – General

17 Section 13–2801 through 13–2807 to be under the new subtitle “Subtitle 28.
18 Maryland Health and Wellness Commission”

19 Annotated Code of Maryland

20 (2005 Replacement Volume and 2008 Supplement)

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

23 **Article – Health – General**

24 **SUBTITLE 28. MARYLAND HEALTH AND WELLNESS COMMISSION.**

25 **13–2801.**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (A) IN THIS SUBTITLE THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS
2 INDICATED.

3 (B) "COMMISSION" MEANS THE MARYLAND HEALTH AND WELLNESS
4 COMMISSION.

5 (C) "PILOT PROGRAM" MEANS THE WELLNESS REPORT CARD PILOT
6 PROGRAM.

7 13-2802.

8 THERE IS A MARYLAND HEALTH AND WELLNESS COMMISSION IN THE
9 DEPARTMENT.

10 13-2803.

11 THE PURPOSE OF THE COMMISSION IS TO:

12 (1) FACILITATE COLLABORATIVE EFFORTS FOR HEALTH
13 PROMOTION AND DISEASE PREVENTION IN COUNTIES IN THE STATE; AND

14 (2) PROMOTE THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC WELL-BEING OF
15 RESIDENTS OF THE STATE THROUGH HEALTHY LIVING.

16 13-2804.

17 (A) THE COMMISSION SHALL CONSIST OF THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS
18 APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR:

19 (1) A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE DEPARTMENT;

20 (2) TWO REPRESENTATIVES OF LOCAL HEALTH DEPARTMENTS;

21 (3) A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND
22 SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH;

23 (4) A REPRESENTATIVE OF AN INSTITUTION OF HIGHER
24 EDUCATION;

25 (5) A REPRESENTATIVE OF A PUBLIC SCHOOL;

26 (6) TWO REPRESENTATIVES OF THE BUSINESS COMMUNITY;

1 (7) TWO REPRESENTATIVES OF COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SOCIAL
2 SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS; AND

3 (8) TWO REPRESENTATIVES OF PUBLIC OR PRIVATE HEALTH
4 CARE FOUNDATIONS.

5 (B) THE GOVERNOR SHALL DESIGNATE THE CHAIR OF THE
6 COMMISSION.

7 (C) THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH
8 SHALL PROVIDE STAFF FOR THE COMMISSION.

9 **13-2805.**

10 **THE COMMISSION SHALL:**

11 (1) PROVIDE A FORUM FOR STAKEHOLDERS TO ENGAGE IN
12 ACTIVE COLLABORATION TO ENHANCE THE HEALTH AND WELL-BEING OF THE
13 RESIDENTS OF THE FIVE COUNTIES INVOLVED IN THE PILOT PROGRAM
14 DEVELOPED UNDER § 13-2806 OF THIS SUBTITLE;

15 (2) ANALYZE THE RESULTS OF THE WELLNESS REPORT CARD
16 DEVELOPED UNDER § 13-2806 OF THIS SUBTITLE AND DEVELOP A STRATEGIC
17 PLAN TO DEVELOP SOLUTIONS TO THE WELLNESS ISSUES IDENTIFIED IN THE
18 WELLNESS REPORT CARD;

19 (3) ENSURE EFFECTIVE IMPLEMENTATION OF PROGRAMS FOR
20 PRIORITY HEALTH PROMOTION AND DISEASE PREVENTION ISSUES AS DEFINED
21 BY THE WELLNESS REPORT CARD DEVELOPED UNDER § 13-2806 OF THIS
22 SUBTITLE AND EVALUATE THE PROGRAMS THAT ARE IMPLEMENTED; AND

23 (4) SERVE AS A MODEL FOR OTHER STATES AND COUNTIES.

24 **13-2806.**

25 (A) THERE IS A WELLNESS REPORT CARD PILOT PROGRAM IN
26 MONTGOMERY COUNTY, PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, ANNE ARUNDEL
27 COUNTY, SOMERSET COUNTY, AND GARRETT COUNTY.

28 (B) THE PURPOSE OF THE PILOT PROGRAM IS TO:

29 (1) IDENTIFY KEY WELLNESS AND PREVENTION ISSUES IN THE
30 COUNTIES INVOLVED IN THE PILOT PROGRAM TO BE RESOLVED BY THE
31 COMMISSION; AND

1 **(2) PROVIDE A COMPREHENSIVE REPORT COMPARING CERTAIN**
2 **COUNTIES IN THE STATE TO EACH OTHER AND IDENTIFYING THE MOST**
3 **IMPORTANT WELLNESS ISSUES THAT NEED TO BE ADDRESSED TO PROMOTE**
4 **WELLNESS AND DISEASE PREVENTION.**

5 **(C) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL DESIGNATE THE ENTITY TO ESTABLISH**
6 **THE WELLNESS REPORT CARD REQUIRED BY THE PILOT PROGRAM.**

7 **(D) THE WELLNESS REPORT CARD SHALL EVALUATE THE HEALTH**
8 **STATUS OF EACH COUNTY IN THE PILOT PROGRAM BY RANKING THE COUNTY**
9 **WITHIN SPECIFIED HEALTH INDICATOR CATEGORIES AND COMPARING EACH**
10 **COUNTY TO THE STATE AND TO COMPARABLE COUNTIES IN THE UNITED**
11 **STATES.**

12 **13-2807.**

13 **THE PILOT PROGRAM ESTABLISHED UNDER THIS SUBTITLE SHALL BE**
14 **FUNDED BY PRIVATE OR FEDERAL GRANTS.**

15 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
16 October 1, 2009. It shall remain effective for a period of 5 years and, at the end of
17 September 30, 2014, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this Act
18 shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.