

# HOUSE BILL 419

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By: **Delegate Hubbard**

Introduced and read first time: February 2, 2009

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

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Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

House action: Adopted

Read second time: March 18, 2009

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## CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

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**

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike-out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



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

2   **13-2801.**

3           **(A) IN THIS SUBTITLE THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS**  
4 **INDICATED.**

5           **(B) “COMMISSION” MEANS THE MARYLAND HEALTH AND WELLNESS**  
6 **COMMISSION.**

7           **(C) “PILOT PROGRAM” MEANS THE WELLNESS REPORT CARD PILOT**  
8 **PROGRAM.**

9   **13-2802.**

10           **THERE IS A MARYLAND HEALTH AND WELLNESS COMMISSION IN THE**  
11 **DEPARTMENT.**

12   **13-2803.**

13           **THE PURPOSE OF THE COMMISSION IS TO:**

14                   **(1) FACILITATE COLLABORATIVE EFFORTS FOR HEALTH**  
15 **PROMOTION AND DISEASE PREVENTION IN COUNTIES IN THE STATE; AND**

16                   **(2) PROMOTE THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC WELL-BEING OF**  
17 **RESIDENTS OF THE STATE THROUGH HEALTHY LIVING.**

18   **13-2804.**

19           **(A) THE COMMISSION SHALL CONSIST OF THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS**  
20 **APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR:**

21                   **(1) A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE DEPARTMENT;**

22                   **(2) TWO REPRESENTATIVES OF LOCAL HEALTH DEPARTMENTS;**

23                   **(3) A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND**  
24 **SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH;**

25                   **(4) A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE JOHNS HOPKINS BLOOMBERG**  
26 **SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH;**

1           ~~(4)~~ (5)       A REPRESENTATIVE OF AN INSTITUTION OF HIGHER  
2 EDUCATION;

3           ~~(5)~~ (6)       A REPRESENTATIVE OF A PUBLIC SCHOOL;

4           ~~(6)~~ (7)       TWO REPRESENTATIVES OF THE BUSINESS COMMUNITY;

5           ~~(7)~~ (8)       TWO REPRESENTATIVES OF COMMUNITY HEALTH AND  
6 SOCIAL SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS; AND

7           ~~(8)~~ (9)       TWO REPRESENTATIVES OF PUBLIC OR PRIVATE  
8 HEALTH CARE FOUNDATIONS.

9           (B) THE GOVERNOR SHALL DESIGNATE THE CHAIR OF THE  
10 COMMISSION.

11           (C) THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH  
12 SHALL PROVIDE STAFF FOR THE COMMISSION USING EXISTING STAFF.

13 **13-2805.**

14           THE COMMISSION SHALL:

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

19           (2) ANALYZE THE RESULTS OF THE WELLNESS REPORT CARD  
20 DEVELOPED UNDER § 13-2806 OF THIS SUBTITLE AND DEVELOP A STRATEGIC  
21 PLAN TO DEVELOP SOLUTIONS TO THE WELLNESS ISSUES IDENTIFIED IN THE  
22 WELLNESS REPORT CARD;

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

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

28 **13-2806.**

29           (A) THERE IS A WELLNESS REPORT CARD PILOT PROGRAM IN  
30 MONTGOMERY COUNTY, PRINCE GEORGE’S COUNTY, ANNE ARUNDEL  
31 COUNTY, SOMERSET COUNTY, AND GARRETT COUNTY.

1           **(B) THE PURPOSE OF THE PILOT PROGRAM IS TO:**

2                   **(1) IDENTIFY KEY WELLNESS AND PREVENTION ISSUES IN THE**  
3 **COUNTIES INVOLVED IN THE PILOT PROGRAM TO BE RESOLVED BY THE**  
4 **COMMISSION; AND**

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

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

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

16 **13-2807.**

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

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

Approved:

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Governor.

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Speaker of the House of Delegates.

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President of the Senate.