

SENATE BILL 257

J2, J1

4lr1054

By: **Senators Kelley, Astle, Feldman, Glassman, Kittleman, Mathias, Middleton, Pugh, ~~and Ramirez~~ Ramirez, and Klausmeier**

Introduced and read first time: January 17, 2014

Assigned to: Finance

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

Senate action: Adopted

Read second time: February 11, 2014

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Task Force to Study Access to Pharmacy Services in Maryland**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing the Task Force to Study Access to Pharmacy Services
4 in Maryland; providing for the composition, chair, and staffing of the Task
5 Force; prohibiting a member of the Task Force from receiving certain
6 compensation, but authorizing the reimbursement of certain expenses;
7 requiring the Task Force to study and make recommendations regarding certain
8 matters; requiring the Task Force to report its findings and recommendations to
9 the Governor, the Health Services Cost Review Commission, the President of
10 the Senate, the Speaker of the House, and certain committees of the General
11 Assembly on or before a certain date; providing for the termination of this Act;
12 and generally relating to the Task Force to Study Access to Pharmacy Services
13 in Maryland.

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

16 (a) There is a Task Force to Study Access to Pharmacy Services in Maryland.

17 (b) The Task Force consists of the following members:

18 (1) two members of the Senate of Maryland, appointed by the
19 President of the Senate;

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 (2) two members of the House of Delegates, appointed by the Speaker
2 of the House;

3 (3) one member of the State Board of Pharmacy, appointed by the
4 Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene;

5 (4) one member of the State Board of Physicians, appointed by the
6 Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene;

7 (5) one representative of the Maryland Medical Assistance Program,
8 appointed by the Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene; ~~and~~

9 (6) one member of the State Board of Dental Examiners, appointed by
10 the Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene;

11 (7) one representative of the Maryland Behavioral Health
12 Administration, appointed by the Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene; and

13 ~~(6)~~ (8) the following members, appointed by the Governor:

14 (i) one representative of the Maryland Society of Health System
15 Pharmacies;

16 (ii) one representative of the Maryland Pharmacists
17 Association;

18 (iii) one representative of the ~~National~~ Maryland Association of
19 Chain Drug Stores;

20 (iv) one representative of the Maryland Hospital Association;

21 (v) one representative of MedChi, The Maryland State Medical
22 Society;

23 (vi) one representative of the Maryland Chapter of the Society of
24 Hospital Medicine;

25 (vii) one representative of the mobility unit of the Maryland
26 Transit Administration; ~~and~~

27 (viii) one consumer member;

28 (ix) one representative of the Maryland DC Society of Clinical
29 Oncology;

30 (x) one representative of the Maryland Dental Society;

1 (xi) one representative of the Maryland State Dental
2 Association;

3 (xii) one representative of a federally qualified health center;

4 (xiii) one representative of an independent retail pharmacy; and

5 (xiv) two representatives of health insurance carriers doing
6 business in the State.

7 (c) The Governor shall designate the chair of the Task Force.

8 (d) The Department of Health and Mental Hygiene shall provide staff for the
9 Task Force.

10 (e) A member of the Task Force:

11 (1) may not receive compensation as a member of the Task Force; but

12 (2) is entitled to reimbursement for expenses under the Standard
13 State Travel Regulations, as provided in the State budget.

14 (f) The Task Force shall:

15 (1) study the availability of pharmacy services for patients when they
16 are discharged from the hospital;

17 (2) identify any barriers or obstacles facing patients when they are
18 discharged from the hospital that may prevent them from filling prescription orders;

19 (3) ~~compile best practices used around the State to facilitate access to~~
20 ~~pharmacy services~~ information on best practices, programs, and community
21 pharmacist services used around the State and nationally to provide and to facilitate
22 access to pharmacy services, including community pharmacy medication therapy
23 management services;

24 (4) explore transition of care and care coordination efforts by hospital
25 staff and direct acute care pharmacists that connect patients with needed pharmacy
26 services after discharge from the hospital;

27 (5) consider geographic differences in the State relating to access to
28 pharmacy services;

29 (6) receive public testimony from stakeholders and the public;

30 (7) recommend strategies to reduce disparities in access to pharmacy
31 services; and

1 (8) recommend the adoption of regulations by the Department of
 2 Health and Mental Hygiene that are consistent with the efforts of the State to
 3 redesign the State's Medicare waiver.

4 (g) On or before ~~June 1, 2015~~ December 31, 2014, the Task Force shall report
 5 its findings and recommendations to the Governor, the Health Services Cost Review
 6 Commission, and, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, the
 7 President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Delegates, the Senate Budget and
 8 Taxation Committee, the Senate Finance Committee, the House Appropriations
 9 Committee, and the House Health and Government Operations Committee.

10 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
 11 June 1, 2014. It shall remain effective for a period of 1 year and 1 month and, at the
 12 end of June 30, 2015, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this
 13 Act shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.

Approved:

Governor.

President of the Senate.

Speaker of the House of Delegates.