

# SENATE BILL 528

J1

9lr0610  
CF 9lr3019

---

By: **Senators Smith, Ellis, Klausmeier, and Simonaire**

Introduced and read first time: February 4, 2019

Assigned to: Finance

---

## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Behavioral Health Services Matching Grant Program for Service Members and**  
3 **Veterans – Establishment**

4 FOR the purpose of establishing the Behavioral Health Services Matching Grant Program  
5 for Service Members and Veterans; providing for the purpose of the Program;  
6 requiring the Maryland Department of Health to administer the Program; requiring  
7 the Program to award certain grants to nonprofit organizations to establish and  
8 expand certain community behavioral health programs; establishing a certain  
9 eligibility requirement; requiring an eligible nonprofit organization to secure certain  
10 contributions for the proposal at least equal in value to the amount requested from  
11 the Program; requiring the Department to develop selection criteria for evaluating  
12 applicant proposals; requiring that the selection criteria contain positive scoring for  
13 certain proposals; requiring the Department, in awarding matching grants, to give  
14 priority to proposals that best meet the selection criteria, regardless of cost; requiring  
15 the Department to establish certain application procedures; requiring the  
16 Department to establish a certain system of outcome measurement; requiring  
17 recipients of a grant under the Program to submit certain information to the  
18 Department; requiring the Department to establish certain guidelines for nonprofit  
19 organizations receiving a grant under the Program to bill certain insurers; requiring  
20 the Department to establish certain procedures; authorizing, beginning in a certain  
21 fiscal year, and each fiscal year thereafter, the Governor to include in the budget bill  
22 a certain appropriation for the Program; requiring, on or before a certain date each  
23 year, the Department to report certain information to the Governor and the General  
24 Assembly; defining certain terms; and generally relating to the Behavioral Health  
25 Services Matching Grant Program for Service Members and Veterans.

26 BY adding to  
27 Article – Health – General  
28 Section 7.5–210  
29 Annotated Code of Maryland  
30 (2015 Replacement Volume and 2018 Supplement)

---

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



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

3 **Article – Health – General**

4 **7.5–210.**

5 (A) (1) IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS  
6 INDICATED.

7 (2) “ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUAL” MEANS:

8 (I) A SERVICE MEMBER;

9 (II) A VETERAN;

10 (III) THE SPOUSE OF A SERVICE MEMBER OR VETERAN;

11 (IV) A CHILD OF A SERVICE MEMBER OR VETERAN; OR

12 (V) A STEPCHILD OF A SERVICE MEMBER OR VETERAN.

13 (3) “PROGRAM” MEANS THE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES  
14 MATCHING GRANT PROGRAM FOR SERVICE MEMBERS AND VETERANS.

15 (4) “SERVICE MEMBER” MEANS AN INDIVIDUAL WHO IS AN ACTIVE  
16 DUTY MEMBER OF:

17 (I) THE ARMED FORCES OF THE UNITED STATES;

18 (II) A RESERVE COMPONENT OF THE ARMED FORCES OF THE  
19 UNITED STATES; OR

20 (III) THE NATIONAL GUARD OF ANY STATE.

21 (5) “VETERAN” MEANS A FORMER SERVICE MEMBER WHO WAS  
22 DISCHARGED FROM ACTIVE DUTY.

23 (B) (1) THERE IS A BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES MATCHING GRANT  
24 PROGRAM FOR SERVICE MEMBERS AND VETERANS.

25 (2) THE PURPOSE OF THE PROGRAM IS TO PROVIDE FUNDS TO LOCAL  
26 NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS TO ESTABLISH AND EXPAND COMMUNITY BEHAVIORAL

1 HEALTH PROGRAMS TO SERVE SERVICE MEMBERS, VETERANS, AND THEIR  
2 FAMILIES.

3 (C) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ADMINISTER THE PROGRAM.

4 (D) THE PROGRAM SHALL AWARD COMPETITIVE MATCHING GRANTS TO  
5 LOCAL NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS TO ESTABLISH AND EXPAND COMMUNITY  
6 BEHAVIORAL HEALTH PROGRAMS THAT:

7 (1) SERVE THE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH NEEDS OF ELIGIBLE  
8 INDIVIDUALS IN THE LOCALITY SERVED BY THE NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION;

9 (2) MEET NATIONAL STANDARDS;

10 (3) INTEGRATE THE DELIVERY OF MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE  
11 USE TREATMENT; AND

12 (4) CONNECT ELIGIBLE INDIVIDUALS TO APPROPRIATE  
13 COMMUNITY-BASED CARE IN A TIMELY MANNER ON DISCHARGE FROM THE  
14 COMMUNITY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH PROGRAM.

15 (E) (1) TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR A GRANT FROM THE PROGRAM, A  
16 NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION MUST HAVE A MISSION TO:

17 (I) PROVIDE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES; OR

18 (II) PROVIDE SERVICES TO SERVICE MEMBERS, VETERANS, OR  
19 THEIR FAMILIES.

20 (2) AN ELIGIBLE NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION SHALL SECURE  
21 CONTRIBUTIONS FOR THE PROPOSAL IN AN AMOUNT OF MONEY OR OTHER  
22 CONSIDERATION AT LEAST EQUAL IN VALUE TO THE AMOUNT OF MONEY REQUESTED  
23 FROM THE PROGRAM.

24 (3) (I) IN AWARDING MATCHING GRANTS UNDER THE PROGRAM,  
25 THE DEPARTMENT SHALL DEVELOP SELECTION CRITERIA FOR EVALUATING  
26 APPLICANT PROPOSALS.

27 (II) THE SELECTION CRITERIA DEVELOPED UNDER THIS  
28 PARAGRAPH SHALL INCLUDE POSITIVE SCORING FOR PROPOSALS THAT:

29 1. DEMONSTRATE FISCAL CONTROLS, INCLUDING BY  
30 MAKING USE OF MULTIPLE SOURCES OF FUNDING;

1                   **2. EVIDENCE PROJECT EFFECTIVENESS, INCLUDING BY**  
2 **SHOWING HOW THE GRANT AWARDED BY THE PROGRAM WILL BE USED TO AUGMENT**  
3 **EXISTING SERVICES TO CREATE SEAMLESS BEHAVIORAL HEALTH TREATMENT;**

4                   **3. SHOW AN APPLICANT'S PREVIOUS SUCCESSFUL**  
5 **EXPERIENCE ADMINISTERING GRANTS; AND**

6                   **4. MEET ANY OTHER CRITERIA THE DEPARTMENT**  
7 **CONSIDERS RELEVANT.**

8                   **(III) IN AWARDING MATCHING GRANTS UNDER THIS SECTION,**  
9 **THE DEPARTMENT SHALL GIVE PRIORITY TO PROPOSALS THAT BEST MEET THE**  
10 **SELECTION CRITERIA REGARDLESS OF THE PROJECTED COST.**

11                   **(4) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ESTABLISH APPLICATION**  
12 **PROCEDURES THAT IMPLEMENT THE REQUIREMENTS OF THIS SUBSECTION.**

13                   **(F) (1) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ESTABLISH A STATEWIDE SYSTEM OF**  
14 **OUTCOME MEASUREMENT TO ASSESS THE EFFECTIVENESS AND ADEQUACY OF**  
15 **SERVICES PROVIDED BY EACH NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION RECEIVING A MATCHING**  
16 **GRANT UNDER THE PROGRAM.**

17                   **(2) A NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION RECEIVING A MATCHING GRANT**  
18 **UNDER THE PROGRAM SHALL SUBMIT ANY INFORMATION THAT THE DEPARTMENT**  
19 **DETERMINES IS NECESSARY FOR THE STATEWIDE SYSTEM OF OUTCOME**  
20 **MEASUREMENT.**

21                   **(G) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ESTABLISH:**

22                   **(1) GUIDELINES THAT REQUIRE NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS WHO**  
23 **RECEIVE A MATCHING GRANT UNDER THE PROGRAM TO BILL THIRD-PARTY**  
24 **INSURERS AND, WHEN APPROPRIATE, THE MARYLAND MEDICAL ASSISTANCE**  
25 **PROGRAM; AND**

26                   **(2) ANY OTHER PROCEDURES NECESSARY TO CARRY OUT THIS**  
27 **SECTION.**

28                   **(H) BEGINNING IN FISCAL YEAR 2021, AND EACH FISCAL YEAR**  
29 **THEREAFTER, THE GOVERNOR MAY INCLUDE IN THE ANNUAL OPERATING BUDGET**  
30 **AN APPROPRIATION OF \$5,000,000 FOR THE PROGRAM.**

1           **(I) ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 1 EACH YEAR, BEGINNING IN 2021, THE**  
2 **DEPARTMENT SHALL SUBMIT TO THE GOVERNOR AND, IN ACCORDANCE WITH §**  
3 **2-1246 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE, THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY A REPORT**  
4 **THAT INCLUDES, FOR THE MOST RECENTLY CLOSED FISCAL YEAR:**

5                   **(1) THE NUMBER OF GRANTS DISTRIBUTED;**

6                   **(2) FUNDS DISTRIBUTED BY COUNTY;**

7                   **(3) INFORMATION ABOUT GRANT RECIPIENTS AND THE SERVICES**  
8 **PROVIDED THROUGH GRANT FUNDING; AND**

9                   **(4) OUTCOME DATA REPORTED UNDER THE STATEWIDE SYSTEM OF**  
10 **MEASUREMENT REQUIRED UNDER SUBSECTION (F) OF THIS SECTION.**

11           SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July  
12 1, 2019.