

SENATE BILL 598

J1

9lr1263
CF 9lr2839

By: **Senator Nathan–Pulliam**

Introduced and read first time: February 4, 2019

Assigned to: Finance

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Maryland Medical Assistance Program – Coverage – Hepatitis C Drugs**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring the Maryland Medical Assistance Program, subject to a
4 certain limitation, to provide coverage for certain drugs for the treatment of hepatitis
5 C; and generally relating to the Maryland Medical Assistance Program and coverage
6 for hepatitis C drugs.

7 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
8 Article – Health – General
9 Section 15–103(a)(1) and (b)(1), (2)(i), and (5)(i)
10 Annotated Code of Maryland
11 (2015 Replacement Volume and 2018 Supplement)

12 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
13 Article – Health – General
14 Section 15–103(a)(2)(xii) and (xiii)
15 Annotated Code of Maryland
16 (2015 Replacement Volume and 2018 Supplement)

17 BY adding to
18 Article – Health – General
19 Section 15–103(a)(2)(xiv)
20 Annotated Code of Maryland
21 (2015 Replacement Volume and 2018 Supplement)

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

24 **Article – Health – General**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 15–103.

2 (a) (1) The Secretary shall administer the Maryland Medical Assistance
3 Program.

4 (2) The Program:

5 (xii) Shall provide services in accordance with funding restrictions
6 included in the annual State budget bill; [and]

7 (xiii) Beginning on January 1, 2019, may provide, subject to the
8 limitations of the State budget, and as permitted by federal law, dental services for adults
9 whose annual household income is at or below 133 percent of the poverty level; **AND**

10 **(XIV) SHALL PROVIDE, SUBJECT TO THE LIMITATIONS OF THE**
11 **STATE BUDGET, ANY MEDICALLY APPROPRIATE DRUG THAT IS APPROVED BY THE**
12 **UNITED STATES FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION FOR THE TREATMENT OF**
13 **HEPATITIS C AND THAT IS DETERMINED TO BE NECESSARY BY THE TREATING**
14 **PHYSICIAN OF THE PROGRAM RECIPIENT.**

15 (b) (1) As permitted by federal law or waiver, the Secretary may establish a
16 program under which Program recipients are required to enroll in managed care
17 organizations.

18 (2) (i) The benefits required by the program developed under
19 paragraph (1) of this subsection shall be adopted by regulation and shall be equivalent to
20 the benefit level required by the Maryland Medical Assistance Program on January 1, 1996.

21 (5) (i) Except for a service excluded by the Secretary under paragraph
22 (4) of this subsection, each managed care organization shall provide all the benefits
23 required by regulations adopted under paragraph (2) of this subsection.

24 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
25 October 1, 2019.