

SENATE BILL 598

J1

9lr1263
CF HB 962

By: **Senator Nathan–Pulliam**

Introduced and read first time: February 4, 2019

Assigned to: Finance

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

Senate action: Adopted

Read second time: March 28, 2019

CHAPTER _____

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, regardless of the fibrosis score; and generally relating to the Maryland Medical
6 Assistance Program and coverage 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)

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 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 15–103.

5 (a) (1) The Secretary shall administer the Maryland Medical Assistance
6 Program.

7 (2) The Program:

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

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

13 **(XIV) SHALL PROVIDE, SUBJECT TO THE LIMITATIONS OF THE**
14 **STATE BUDGET, ~~ANY~~ MEDICALLY APPROPRIATE ~~DRUG~~ DRUGS THAT ~~IS~~ ARE**
15 **APPROVED BY THE UNITED STATES FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION FOR THE**
16 **TREATMENT OF HEPATITIS C, REGARDLESS OF THE FIBROSIS SCORE, AND THAT ~~IS~~**
17 **ARE DETERMINED TO BE MEDICALLY NECESSARY ~~BY THE TREATING PHYSICIAN OF~~**
18 **~~THE PROGRAM RECIPIENT.~~**

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

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

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

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