

HOUSE BILL 925

J1

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By: **Delegate Arikan**

Introduced and read first time: February 2, 2021

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Workgroup on Medical Cannabis Use by Pregnant and Nursing Women**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing the Workgroup on Medical Cannabis Use by Pregnant and
4 Nursing Women; providing for the composition, chair, and staffing of the Workgroup;
5 prohibiting a member of the Workgroup from receiving certain compensation, but
6 authorizing the reimbursement of certain expenses; requiring the Workgroup to
7 conduct a certain study and make certain recommendations; requiring the
8 Workgroup to report its findings and recommendations to the Governor and the
9 General Assembly on or before a certain date; providing for the termination of this
10 Act; and generally relating to the Workgroup on Medical Cannabis Use by Pregnant
11 and Nursing Women.

12 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,

13 That:

14 (a) There is a Workgroup on Medical Cannabis Use by Pregnant and Nursing
15 Women.

16 (b) The Workgroup shall consist of the following members:

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

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

21 (3) the Secretary of Health, or the Secretary's designee;

22 (4) the Executive Director of the Natalie M. LaPrade Medical Cannabis
23 Commission, or the Executive Director's designee; and

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



- 1 (5) the following members, appointed by the Secretary of Health:
- 2 (i) one certifying provider of medical cannabis;
- 3 (ii) one licensed psychologist;
- 4 (iii) one child welfare expert;
- 5 (iv) one member of the research community with expertise in the
6 physiological effects of medical cannabis; and
- 7 (v) any other stakeholder considered necessary by the Secretary to
8 fulfill the duties of the Workgroup.
- 9 (c) The Secretary of Health shall designate the chair of the Workgroup.
- 10 (d) The Maryland Department of Health shall provide staff for the Workgroup.
- 11 (e) A member of the Workgroup:
- 12 (1) may not receive compensation as a member of the Workgroup; but
- 13 (2) is entitled to reimbursement for expenses under the Standard State
14 Travel Regulations, as provided in the State budget.
- 15 (f) The Workgroup shall:
- 16 (1) study:
- 17 (i) how to conduct drug testing to ensure that an individual is not
18 identified as a cannabis user if the individual uses only over-the-counter cannabidiol
19 (CBD) oil containing no tetrahydrocannabinol (THC);
- 20 (ii) the psychological and bonding effects on mother and baby of
21 unnecessary Child Protective Services investigations;
- 22 (iii) the conditions for which medical cannabis is administered and
23 the conditions for which a pregnant or nursing woman may use medical cannabis;
- 24 (iv) the comparative effects of medical cannabis on a fetus as
25 compared to other medications used to treat the same medical conditions in a pregnant
26 woman;
- 27 (v) the comparative effects of medical cannabis on a nursing child as
28 compared to other medications used to treat the same medical conditions in a nursing
29 mother;

1 (vi) the impact of the cessation of usage of medical cannabis on a
2 pregnant woman and her fetus; and

3 (vii) the impact of the cessation of usage of medical cannabis on a
4 nursing mother and the nursing child; and

5 (2) make recommendations regarding guidelines for medical cannabis
6 exposure for pregnant and nursing women.

7 (g) On or before December 31, 2021, the Workgroup shall report its findings and
8 recommendations to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2-1257 of the State
9 Government Article, the General Assembly.

10 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June
11 1, 2021. It shall remain effective for a period of 1 year and 1 month, and, at the end of June
12 30, 2022, this Act, with no further action required by the General Assembly, shall be
13 abrogated and of no further force and effect.