

HOUSE BILL 946

R2

1lr1668

By: **Delegate Wells**

Introduced and read first time: February 2, 2021

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Maryland Transit Administration – Reduced Fare Program for Opioid**
3 **Treatment Center Patients – Modifications**

4 FOR the purpose of altering requirements relating to participation in the Maryland Transit
5 Administration’s Disabled Reduced Fare Program by certain opioid treatment
6 programs by requiring the Administration to allow opioid treatment programs to
7 certify eligibility for and issue identification cards and monthly transit passes to
8 qualifying patients; requiring rather than authorizing participating opioid
9 treatment programs to issue the identification cards and transit passes to patients
10 on-site; altering the requirements for certain regulations the Administration is
11 required to adopt; making a stylistic change; and generally relating to the Maryland
12 Transit Administration and transit passes for patients of opioid treatment programs.

13 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
14 Article – Transportation
15 Section 7–712
16 Annotated Code of Maryland
17 (2020 Replacement Volume)

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

20 **Article – Transportation**

21 7–712.

22 (a) (1) The Administration shall [make available to] **ALLOW** opioid treatment
23 programs **TO CERTIFY ELIGIBILITY FOR AND ISSUE IDENTIFICATION CARDS AND**
24 monthly transit passes that **ARE**:

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (i) [Are for] **FOR** use by patients of opioid treatment programs who
2 qualify for the Administration's Disabled Reduced Fare Program; and

3 (ii) [May be issued] **ISSUED** to patients [on site] **ON-SITE** at
4 **PARTICIPATING** opioid treatment programs by opioid treatment program staff.

5 (2) The transit passes issued under paragraph (1) of this subsection shall
6 be made available at a reduced price that reflects the price of a monthly pass issued under
7 the Disabled Reduced Fare Program as of October 1, 2020, less any cost savings to the
8 Administration that result from having participating opioid treatment programs issuing
9 transit passes directly to patients.

10 (b) The Administration shall adopt regulations to establish the process by which
11 participating opioid treatment programs [may] **CERTIFY ELIGIBILITY FOR AND** issue
12 **IDENTIFICATION CARDS AND** transit passes under this section.

13 (c) On or before December 1, 2021, and on or before December 1 each year
14 thereafter, the Administration, in consultation with participating opioid treatment
15 program providers, shall submit a report to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2-1257
16 of the State Government Article, the General Assembly on the status of the implementation
17 of the requirements under this section.

18 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
19 October 1, 2021.