

Department of Legislative Services  
Maryland General Assembly  
2021 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE  
First Reader

House Bill 1313 (Delegate Mangione)  
Health and Government Operations

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Emergency Medical Services - Paramedics - Vaccination Administration

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This emergency bill authorizes a paramedic to administer a vaccination included on the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s (CDC) recommended adult immunization schedule or authorized for emergency use by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA), as well as tuberculin skin testing. However, those services must be part of a public safety or commercial emergency medical services (EMS) occupational health program or a population health outreach effort conducted by the appropriate local health department (LHD) or a hospital or health system in the State. **The bill terminates July 1, 2024.**

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Fiscal Summary

**State Effect:** The bill does not substantively change State activities or finances.

**Local Effect:** The bill does not substantively change local activities or finances.

**Small Business Effect:** Minimal.

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Analysis

**Bill Summary:** Vaccinations and tuberculin skin testing must be (1) provided under the direction of the EMS operational program medical director, ambulance service medical director, or other qualified physician and authorized by the Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services Systems (MIEMSS) and (2) provided in accordance with a written agreement between the paramedic’s EMS operational program or commercial EMS service and the LHD or a hospital or health system. A written agreement must include provisions for (1) the administration of a vaccine to an individual at least 18 years of age;

(2) storage and inventory of medication; (3) distribution of appropriate vaccine information statements; (4) documentation of patient consent; (5) recognition of adverse effects; (6) referral and follow-up; and (7) appropriate documentation of vaccine administration.

**Current Law:** Subject to the rules, regulations, protocols, orders, and standards of the EMS Board, a paramedic may administer influenza and hepatitis B immunizations and tuberculosis skin testing, in a nonemergency environment, to public safety personnel within the jurisdiction of the paramedic. These services must be (1) authorized by a written agreement between the provider's jurisdictional EMS operational program medical director and the LHD; (2) under the direction of the jurisdictional EMS operational program medical director; and (3) approved by MIEMSS.

**Additional Comments:** CDC's [\*Recommended Adult Immunization Schedule for ages 19 or older, United States, 2020\*](#) includes vaccinations for *haemophilus influenza* type B; hepatitis A; hepatitis B; human papillomavirus; influenza; measles, mumps, and rubella; meningococcal; pneumococcal; tetanus and diphtheria; varicella; and zoster. In December 2020, FDA approved two COVID-19 vaccines for emergency use. Maryland began distribution of the vaccines in January 2021.

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### Additional Information

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Designated Cross File:** SB 67 (Chair, Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee, *et al.*) (By Request - Departmental - Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services Systems) - Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs.

**Information Source(s):** Maryland Association of County Health Officers; Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services Systems; Maryland Department of Health; U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - February 18, 2021  
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