

# HOUSE BILL 119

C4

(PRE-FILED)

2lr0453  
CF 2lr0448

---

By: **Delegate Qi**

Requested: September 10, 2021

Introduced and read first time: January 12, 2022

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

---

## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Insurance – Annuities – Nonforfeiture – Interest Rate**

3 FOR the purpose of altering the minimum interest rate used to determine minimum  
4 nonforfeiture amounts for annuity contracts; and generally relating to annuities and  
5 nonforfeiture.

6 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
7 Article – Insurance  
8 Section 16–504  
9 Annotated Code of Maryland  
10 (2017 Replacement Volume and 2021 Supplement)

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

13 **Article – Insurance**

14 16–504.

15 (a) The minimum values specified under §§ 16–505 through 16–509 of this  
16 subtitle of any paid-up annuity, cash surrender, or death benefits under an annuity  
17 contract shall be based on minimum nonforfeiture amounts calculated under this section.

18 (b) (1) At any time before or at the start of any annuity payments, the  
19 minimum nonforfeiture amount under an annuity contract shall equal the remainder of:

20 (i) the accumulation until that time, of the net considerations paid  
21 prior to that time, at an interest rate determined under subsection (c) of this section; less

22 (ii) the sum of:

---

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1                   1.     any withdrawal from or partial surrender of the contract  
2 accumulated at the interest rate determined under subsection (c) of this section;

3                   2.     an annual contract charge of \$50 accumulated at the  
4 interest rate determined under subsection (c) of this section;

5                   3.     any premium tax actually paid by the company for the  
6 contract, not to include a premium tax credited back to the company, accumulated at the  
7 interest rate determined under subsection (c) of this section; and

8                   4.     any indebtedness to the insurer on the contract, including  
9 interest due and accrued.

10               (2)     The net considerations for a given contract year used to calculate the  
11 minimum nonforfeiture amount shall equal 87.5% of the gross considerations credited to  
12 the contract during that contract year.

13               (c)     (1)     The interest rate used to determine the minimum nonforfeiture  
14 amounts under subsection (b) of this section shall be an annual rate of interest that is equal  
15 to the lesser of:

16                   (i)     3% per year; or

17                   (ii)    the 5-year constant maturity treasury rate reported by the  
18 Federal Reserve Board.

19               (2)     The 5-year constant maturity treasury rate under paragraph (1)(ii) of  
20 this subsection shall be:

21                   (i)     1.     as of a date not more than 15 months before either the  
22 contract issue date or redetermination date; or

23                   2.     averaged over a period of not more than 15 months before  
24 the contract issue date or redetermination date; and

25                   (ii)    rounded to the nearest one-twentieth of 1% and then reduced by  
26 125 basis points.

27               (3)     The interest rate calculated under paragraphs (1) and (2) of this  
28 subsection may not be less than [1%] **0.15%**.

29               (4)     (i)     The interest rate calculated under paragraphs (1) and (2) of this  
30 subsection:

31                   1.     shall apply to the initial contract period; and

