HOUSE BILL 287

J1, P1

By: Delegates Pena–Melnyk, Amprey, Bagnall, Chang, Charles, Crutchfield, Cullison, Hill, Howell, Landis, Lehman, Ruth, Stewart, Valentino–Smith, and Williams

Introduced and read first time: January 17, 2022
Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

Committee Report: Favorable
House action: Adopted
Read second time: February 22, 2022

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

Secretary of Health – Professional Qualification Requirement

2 FOR the purpose of requiring the Secretary of Health to be professionally qualified through certain experience or education; and generally relating to the Secretary of Health.

3 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

4 Article – Health – General
5 Section 2–102
6 Annotated Code of Maryland
7 (2019 Replacement Volume and 2021 Supplement)

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

9 Article – Health – General

10 2–102.

11 (a) The head of the Department is the Secretary of Health, who shall be appointed by the Governor with the advice and consent of the Senate.

12 (B) THE SECRETARY MUST BE PROFESSIONALLY QUALIFIED THROUGH EXPERIENCE OR EDUCATION IN AT LEAST ONE OF THE FOLLOWING AREAS:

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) **Health Law or Policy**;

(2) **Health Care Facilities Administration**;

(3) **Health Economics or Financial Management**;

(4) **Government Operations Related to Health Care**; or

(5) **As a Health Care Provider**.

[(b)] (C) (1) (I) The Secretary serves at the pleasure of the Governor and is responsible directly to the Governor.

(II) The Secretary shall advise the Governor on all matters assigned to the Department and is responsible for carrying out the Governor’s policies on these matters.

(2) (I) The Secretary is responsible for the operation of the Department and shall establish guidelines and procedures to promote the orderly and efficient administration of the Department.

(II) The Secretary may establish, reorganize, or abolish areas of responsibility in the Department as necessary to fulfill the duties assigned to the Secretary.

[(c)] (D) The Secretary is entitled to the salary provided in the State budget.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2022.

Approved:

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Governor.

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Speaker of the House of Delegates.

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President of the Senate.