

HOUSE BILL 1185

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2lr2063

By: **Delegates Patterson, Crutchfield, Henson, Howell, R. Jones, and McComas**
Introduced and read first time: February 11, 2022
Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Public Health – Sickle Cell Disease – Referral for Transcranial Doppler**
3 **Ultrasound**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring a physician or an advanced practice nurse, except under
5 certain circumstances, to refer certain minor patients whom the physician or
6 advanced practice nurse knows to have sickle cell disease to a hematologist who
7 specializes in sickle cell disease for a transcranial doppler ultrasound; and generally
8 relating to referrals of minors with sickle cell disease for transcranial doppler
9 ultrasounds.

10 BY adding to

11 Article – Health – General
12 Section 18–508
13 Annotated Code of Maryland
14 (2019 Replacement Volume and 2021 Supplement)

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

17 **Article – Health – General**

18 **18–508.**

19 **(A) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION, AT LEAST**
20 **ONCE EACH YEAR, A PHYSICIAN OR AN ADVANCED PRACTICE NURSE SHALL REFER**
21 **TO A HEMATOLOGIST WHO SPECIALIZES IN SICKLE CELL DISEASE FOR A**
22 **TRANSCRANIAL DOPPLER ULTRASOUND EACH MINOR PATIENT OF THE PHYSICIAN**
23 **OR ADVANCED PRACTICE NURSE:**

24 **(1) AT LEAST 2 YEARS OLD AND UNDER THE AGE OF 17 YEARS; AND**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 **(2) WHOM THE PHYSICIAN OR ADVANCED PRACTICE NURSE KNOWS**
2 **TO HAVE SICKLE CELL DISEASE.**

3 **(B) IF A PHYSICIAN OR AN ADVANCED PRACTICE NURSE HAS DOCUMENTED**
4 **PROOF THAT THE MINOR RECEIVED A TRANSCRANIAL DOPPLER ULTRASOUND**
5 **RELATED TO SICKLE CELL DISEASE IN THE IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING 12 MONTHS,**
6 **THE PHYSICIAN OR ADVANCED PRACTICE NURSE MAY DECLINE TO REFER THE**
7 **CHILD FOR A TRANSCRANIAL DOPPLER ULTRASOUND AS REQUIRED UNDER**
8 **SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE YEAR IN WHICH THE**
9 **DOCUMENTED PROOF WAS RECEIVED.**

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