

HOUSE BILL 1192

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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 **Maryland Health Care Commission – Studies of Issues Affecting Individuals**
3 **With Sickle Cell Disease**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring the Maryland Health Care Commission, in consultation with
5 the Maryland Department of Health and certain experts and stakeholders, to
6 conduct studies on individuals who provide medical services in emergency
7 departments and their knowledge of sickle cell disease, the coordination of health
8 care for individuals with sickle cell disease who are transitioning from pediatric to
9 adult health care in the State, and Maryland Medical Assistance Program enrollees
10 seeking medical care for sickle cell disease outside the State; requiring the
11 Commission to provide a copy of the report to a person on request; and generally
12 relating to studies regarding individuals with sickle cell disease.

13 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
14 That:

15 (a) (1) The Maryland Health Care Commission, in consultation with the
16 Maryland Department of Health, experts in sickle cell disease, individuals who provide
17 medical care in emergency departments, and other stakeholders, shall conduct a study on
18 individuals who provide medical services in emergency departments in the State and their
19 knowledge of sickle cell disease.

20 (2) The study conducted under paragraph (1) of this subsection shall
21 examine:

22 (i) the extent and type of knowledge that individuals who provide
23 medical services in emergency departments in the State have about sickle cell disease;

24 (ii) the type of educational training individuals who provide medical
25 services in emergency departments receive regarding sickle cell disease, its treatment, and
26 how it may be affected by medical care; and

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (iii) opportunities to educate individuals who provide medical
2 services in emergency departments on sickle cell disease, including by requiring an
3 individual to meet education requirements regarding sickle cell disease before being issued
4 any certification required for providing medical care in an emergency department setting
5 or as a component of continuing education.

6 (b) (1) The Maryland Health Care Commission, in consultation with the
7 Maryland Department of Health, experts in sickle cell disease, and other stakeholders,
8 shall conduct a study on the coordination of health care for individuals with sickle cell
9 disease who are transitioning from pediatric to adult health care in the State.

10 (2) The study conducted under paragraph (1) of this subsection shall
11 examine:

12 (i) resources available to individuals with sickle cell disease who are
13 transitioning from pediatric to adult health care in the State;

14 (ii) the type and frequency of actions taken by health care providers
15 in the State to coordinate health care for individuals with sickle cell disease who are
16 transitioning from pediatric to adult health care in the State; and

17 (iii) opportunities to enhance health care coordination for individuals
18 with sickle cell disease who are transitioning from pediatric to adult health care in the
19 State.

20 (c) (1) The Maryland Health Care Commission, in consultation with the
21 Maryland Department of Health, experts in sickle cell disease, Maryland Medical
22 Assistance Program enrollees with sickle cell disease, and other stakeholders, shall conduct
23 a study on Maryland Medical Assistance Program enrollees receiving out-of-state medical
24 care for sickle cell disease.

25 (2) The study conducted under paragraph (1) of this subsection shall
26 examine, to the extent practicable:

27 (i) the number of Maryland Medical Assistance Program enrollees
28 receiving medical care for sickle cell disease outside the State, including as compared to the
29 total number of Program enrollees with sickle cell disease;

30 (ii) the reasons that Maryland Medical Assistance Program
31 enrollees seek medical care for sickle cell disease outside the State;

32 (iii) barriers to receiving medical care for sickle cell disease outside
33 the State for Maryland Medical Assistance Program enrollees; and

34 (iv) financial consequences of Maryland Medical Assistance Program
35 enrollees receiving care for sickle cell disease outside the State, both for the enrollees and

1 the Program.

2 (d) (1) On or before July 1, 2023, the Maryland Health Care Commission shall
3 report its findings and recommendations resulting from the studies required under this
4 section, in accordance with § 2-1257 of the State Government Article, to the Senate
5 Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee and the House Health and
6 Government Operations Committee.

7 (2) The Maryland Health Care Commission shall provide a copy of the
8 report under paragraph (1) of this subsection to any person on request.

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