

# SENATE BILL 295

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SB 389/21 – FIN

2lr0613  
CF HB 44

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By: **Senators Gallion, Corderman, Guzzone, Beidle, and Elfreth**

Introduced and read first time: January 19, 2022

Assigned to: Finance

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Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

Senate action: Adopted

Read second time: March 9, 2022

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## CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Maryland Medical Assistance Program – Emergency Service Transporters**  
3 **– Reimbursement**

4 FOR the purpose of altering the medical services provided by an emergency service  
5 transporter for which the Maryland Department of Health is required to reimburse  
6 the emergency service transporter who charges for its services and requests  
7 reimbursement from the Maryland Medical Assistance Program; requiring the  
8 Department to increase the amount of reimbursement by a certain amount each  
9 fiscal year, beginning in a certain fiscal year, until the rate is at least a certain  
10 amount; and generally relating to the reimbursement of services provided by  
11 emergency service transporters under the Maryland Medical Assistance Program.

12 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
13 Article – Health – General  
14 Section 15–114.1  
15 Annotated Code of Maryland  
16 (2019 Replacement Volume and 2021 Supplement)

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

19 **Article – Health – General**

20 15–114.1.

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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 (a) (1) In this section[, “emergency”] **THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE**  
2 **MEANINGS INDICATED.**

3 (2) **“EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES PROVIDER” HAS THE MEANING**  
4 **STATED IN § 13–561 OF THE EDUCATION ARTICLE.**

5 (3) **“EMERGENCY service transporter” means [a]:**

6 (I) **A public entity or volunteer fire, rescue, or emergency medical**  
7 **service that provides emergency medical services; OR**

8 (II) **A COMMERCIAL AMBULANCE SERVICE.**

9 (4) **“LOW-ACUITY HEALTH CONDITION” MEANS AN ILLNESS, AN**  
10 **INJURY, OR A CONDITION SERIOUS ENOUGH THAT A REASONABLE PERSON WOULD**  
11 **SEEK CARE IMMEDIATELY, BUT NOT SO SEVERE AS TO REQUIRE EMERGENCY ROOM**  
12 **CARE.**

13 (5) **“MOBILE INTEGRATED HEALTH SERVICE” MEANS A**  
14 **COMMUNITY-BASED PREVENTIVE, PRIMARY, CHRONIC, PREADMISSION, OR**  
15 **POSTADMISSION HEALTH CARE SERVICE OR TRANSPORT PROVIDED BY AN**  
16 **EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES PROVIDER TO AN INDIVIDUAL.**

17 (b) (1) **[If] SUBJECT TO PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION, IF** an  
18 **emergency service transporter charges for its services and requests reimbursement from**  
19 **the Program, the Department shall reimburse the emergency service transporter, in an**  
20 **amount as specified by regulations adopted by the Department, for the cost of:**

21 **[(1)] (I) Transportation the emergency service transporter provides to a**  
22 **Program recipient to a facility in response to a 911 call; and**

23 **[(2)] (II) Medical services the emergency service transporter provides to**  
24 **the Program recipient [while transporting the Program recipient to a facility] in response**  
25 **to a 911 call.**

26 (2) **BEGINNING IN FISCAL YEAR 2023, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL**  
27 **INCREASE THE AMOUNT OF REIMBURSEMENT AUTHORIZED UNDER PARAGRAPH (1)**  
28 **OF THIS SUBSECTION FOR THE COST OF TRANSPORTATION AND MEDICAL SERVICES**  
29 **BY \$25 EACH FISCAL YEAR, UNTIL THE REIMBURSEMENT FOR THE SERVICES IS AT**  
30 **LEAST \$300.**

31 (c) (1) **SUBJECT TO PARAGRAPH (3) OF THIS SUBSECTION, THE**  
32 **DEPARTMENT SHALL REIMBURSE AN EMERGENCY SERVICE TRANSPORTER FOR**  
33 **MOBILE INTEGRATED HEALTH SERVICES PROVIDED TO A PROGRAM RECIPIENT IN**

1 AN AMOUNT AS SPECIFIED BY REGULATIONS ADOPTED BY THE DEPARTMENT THAT  
2 IS AT LEAST \$100 PER INTERACTION.

3 (2) THE SERVICES SUBJECT TO REIMBURSEMENT UNDER  
4 PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION SHALL INCLUDE:

5 (I) HEALTH CARE SERVICES, INCLUDING HEALTH  
6 ASSESSMENTS, REMOTE MEDICAL DIAGNOSTICS, CHRONIC DISEASE MONITORING  
7 AND EDUCATION, MEDICATION COMPLIANCE, IMMUNIZATIONS AND VACCINATIONS,  
8 LABORATORY SPECIMEN COLLECTION, HOSPITAL DISCHARGE FOLLOW-UP CARE,  
9 AND MINOR MEDICAL PROCEDURES, PROVIDED BY AN EMERGENCY MEDICAL  
10 SERVICES PROVIDER THAT ARE:

11 1. WITHIN THE SCOPE OF PRACTICE OF THE  
12 EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES PROVIDER;

13 2. PROVIDED IN A HOME OR ANOTHER  
14 COMMUNITY-BASED SETTING TO A PROGRAM RECIPIENT WHO DOES NOT REQUIRE  
15 EMERGENCY MEDICAL TRANSPORT; AND

16 3. CONSISTENT WITH THE PROTOCOLS ISSUED BY THE  
17 EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES BOARD; AND

18 (II) TRANSPORTATION PROVIDED BY THE EMERGENCY SERVICE  
19 TRANSPORTER TO A PROGRAM RECIPIENT WITH A LOW-ACUITY HEALTH CONDITION  
20 TO A LOCATION IN WHICH URGENT HEALTH CARE SERVICES ARE PROVIDED TO  
21 INDIVIDUALS.

22 (3) BEGINNING IN FISCAL YEAR 2023, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL  
23 INCREASE THE AMOUNT OF REIMBURSEMENT AUTHORIZED UNDER PARAGRAPH (1)  
24 OF THIS SUBSECTION FOR THE COST OF TRANSPORTATION AND MEDICAL SERVICES  
25 BY \$25 EACH FISCAL YEAR, UNTIL THE REIMBURSEMENT FOR THE SERVICES IS AT  
26 LEAST \$300.

27 [(c)] (D) The Department shall adopt any regulations necessary to carry out this  
28 section.

29 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That:

30 (a) The Maryland Department of Health, in coordination with the Maryland  
31 Institute for Emergency Medical Services Systems, shall study the adequacy of the rate of  
32 reimbursement ~~for mobile-integrated health services~~ provided under § 15-114.1 of the  
33 Health – General Article, as enacted by Section 1 of this Act.

1 (b) The study required under subsection (a) of this section shall include an  
2 analysis of best practices from other states.

3 (c) On or before November 1, ~~2023~~ 2024, the Department shall report its findings  
4 and recommendations to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2-1257 of the State  
5 Government Article, the General Assembly.

6 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That:

7 (a) The Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services Systems (MIEMSS)  
8 shall study the emergency and nonemergency interfacility transport system for patients  
9 enrolled in the Maryland Medical Assistance Program, including the process for responding  
10 to referral requests in a timely manner, the adequacy of reimbursement related to costs,  
11 and performance standards.

12 (b) On or before December 31, 2022, MIEMSS shall report its findings and  
13 recommendations to the Senate Finance Committee and the House Health and  
14 Government Operations Committee, in accordance with § 2-1257 of the State Government  
15 Article.

16 SECTION 4. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That Sections 1 and 2 of this Act  
17 shall take effect October 1, 2022. Section 1 of this Act shall remain effective for a period of  
18 2 years and 9 months and, at the end of June 30, 2025, Section 1 of this Act, with no further  
19 action required by the General Assembly, shall be abrogated and of no further force and  
20 effect.

21 SECTION ~~3~~ 5. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, except as provided in  
22 Section 4 of this Act, this Act shall take effect ~~October~~ July 1, 2022.

Approved:

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Governor.

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President of the Senate.

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Speaker of the House of Delegates.