

SENATE BILL 417

P4

2lr1727
CF HB 379

By: **Senator Feldman**

Introduced and read first time: January 26, 2022

Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **State Employee and Retiree Health and Welfare Benefits Program – Eligibility**
3 **for Enrollment and Participation**
4 **(Independent Agency Health Insurance Option Act)**

5 FOR the purpose of authorizing employees of the Maryland Agricultural and
6 Resource–Based Industry Development Corporation, the Maryland Clean Energy
7 Center, and the Bainbridge Development Corporation to enroll and participate in the
8 health insurance benefit options established under the State Employee and Retiree
9 Health and Welfare Benefits Program under certain circumstances; requiring the
10 Secretary of Budget and Management to make a certain determination within a
11 certain period of time; and generally relating to the State Employee and Retiree
12 Health and Welfare Benefits Program.

13 BY adding to

14 Article – State Personnel and Pensions
15 Section 2–515.3
16 Annotated Code of Maryland
17 (2015 Replacement Volume and 2021 Supplement)

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

20 **Article – State Personnel and Pensions**

21 **2–515.3.**

22 **(A) THIS SECTION APPLIES TO THE MARYLAND AGRICULTURAL AND**
23 **RESOURCE–BASED INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION, THE MARYLAND**
24 **CLEAN ENERGY CENTER, AND THE BAINBRIDGE DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION.**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 **(B) IF THE SECRETARY DETERMINES THAT AN ENTITY SUBJECT TO THIS**
2 **SECTION IS AN ELIGIBLE ENTITY, AN EMPLOYEE OF THE ENTITY MAY ENROLL AND**
3 **PARTICIPATE IN THE HEALTH INSURANCE BENEFIT OPTIONS ESTABLISHED UNDER**
4 **THE PROGRAM WITH THE APPROVAL OF THE ENTITY.**

5 **(C) AN ENTITY SUBJECT TO THIS SECTION SHALL:**

6 **(1) PAY TO THE STATE THE TOTAL COSTS RESULTING FROM THE**
7 **PARTICIPATION OF ITS EMPLOYEES IN THE PROGRAM; AND**

8 **(2) DETERMINE THE EXTENT TO WHICH THE ENTITY WILL SUBSIDIZE**
9 **PARTICIPATION OF ITS EMPLOYEES IN THE PROGRAM.**

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

11 (a) Within 30 days of the effective date of this Act, the Secretary of Budget and
12 Management shall determine whether the entities subject to § 2–515.3 of the State
13 Personnel and Pensions Article, as enacted by Section 1 of this Act, are eligible to enroll
14 and participate in the health insurance benefit options established under the State
15 Employee and Retirement Health and Welfare Benefits Program.

16 (b) The Secretary shall notify the Department of Legislative Services within 5
17 days of making the determination required under subsection (a) of this section.

18 (c) If the Secretary determines that all of the entities subject to § 2–515.3 of the
19 State Personnel and Pensions Article, as enacted by Section 1 of this Act, are not eligible
20 to enroll and participate in the health insurance benefit options established under the
21 Program, this Act, with no further action required by the General Assembly, shall be
22 abrogated and of no further force and effect.

23 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
24 1, 2022.