SENATE BILL 417

By: Senator Feldman
Introduced and read first time: January 26, 2022
Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

A BILL ENTITLED

AN ACT concerning
State Employee and Retiree Health and Welfare Benefits Program – Eligibility
for Enrollment and Participation
(Independent Agency Health Insurance Option Act)

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

BY adding to
Article – State Personnel and Pensions
Section 2–515.3
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2015 Replacement Volume and 2021 Supplement)

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

Article – State Personnel and Pensions

2–515.3.

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

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.
[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.
(B) IF THE SECRETARY DETERMINES THAT AN ENTITY SUBJECT TO THIS
SECTION IS AN ELIGIBLE ENTITY, AN EMPLOYEE OF THE ENTITY MAY ENROLL AND
PARTICIPATE IN THE HEALTH INSURANCE BENEFIT OPTIONS ESTABLISHED UNDER
THE PROGRAM WITH THE APPROVAL OF THE ENTITY.

(C) AN ENTITY SUBJECT TO THIS SECTION SHALL:

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

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

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That:

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

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

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

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