

SENATE BILL 417

P4

2lr1727
CF HB 379

By: **Senator Feldman**

Introduced and read first time: January 26, 2022

Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

Senate action: Adopted

Read second time: March 5, 2022

CHAPTER _____

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, and the Maryland Clean
7 Energy Center, ~~and the Bainbridge Development Corporation~~ to enroll and
8 participate in the health insurance benefit options established under the State
9 Employee and Retiree Health and Welfare Benefits Program under certain
10 circumstances; requiring the Secretary of Budget and Management to make a certain
11 determination within a certain period of time; requiring the Secretary of Budget and
12 Management to submit a certain report; and generally relating to the State
13 Employee and Retiree Health and Welfare Benefits Program.

14 BY adding to

15 Article – State Personnel and Pensions
16 Section 2–515.3
17 Annotated Code of Maryland
18 (2015 Replacement Volume and 2021 Supplement)

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

21 **Article – State Personnel and Pensions**

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 **2-515.3.**

2 (A) THIS SECTION APPLIES TO THE MARYLAND AGRICULTURAL AND
 3 RESOURCE-BASED INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION, AND THE MARYLAND
 4 CLEAN ENERGY CENTER, ~~AND THE BAINBRIDGE DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION.~~

5 (B) IF THE SECRETARY DETERMINES THAT AN ENTITY SUBJECT TO THIS
 6 SECTION IS AN ELIGIBLE ENTITY, AN EMPLOYEE OF THE ENTITY MAY ENROLL AND
 7 PARTICIPATE IN THE HEALTH INSURANCE BENEFIT OPTIONS ESTABLISHED UNDER
 8 THE PROGRAM WITH THE APPROVAL OF THE ENTITY.

9 (C) AN ENTITY SUBJECT TO THIS SECTION SHALL:

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

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

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

15 (a) Within ~~30~~ 60 days of the effective date of this Act, the Secretary of Budget and
 16 Management shall determine whether the entities subject to § 2-515.3 of the State
 17 Personnel and Pensions Article, as enacted by Section 1 of this Act, are eligible to enroll
 18 and participate in the health insurance benefit options established under the State
 19 Employee and Retirement Health and Welfare Benefits Program.

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

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

27 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, on or before December 1,
 28 2022, the Secretary of Budget and Management shall submit a report, in accordance with
 29 § 2-1257 of the State Government Article, to the Senate Budget and Taxation Committee
 30 and the House Appropriations Committee on the participation by non-State entities in the
 31 State Employee and Retiree Health and Welfare Benefits Program, including:

32 (1) the non-State entities approved to participate in the program;

33 (2) the benefits in which employees and retirees of each entity are eligible
 34 to participate;

1 (3) the aggregate number of employees and retirees of non-State entities
2 participating in the program; and

3 (4) the employer subsidies provided by each participating entity.

4 SECTION ~~3~~ 4. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
5 July 1, 2022.

Approved:

Governor.

President of the Senate.

Speaker of the House of Delegates.