

SENATE BILL 607

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2lr2509
CF 2lr2316

By: **Senators Hayes, Feldman, Guzzone, Griffith, and Kelley**

Introduced and read first time: February 2, 2022

Assigned to: Finance

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

Health Equity Resource Communities – Modifications

3 FOR the purpose of requiring the Chesapeake Regional Information System for our
4 Patients (CRISP) to provide technical assistance to the Community Health
5 Resources Commission in implementing provisions of law governing Health Equity
6 Resource Communities; altering the date by which the Commission must issue a
7 request for proposals to designate areas as Health Equity Resource Communities;
8 establishing that the Health Equity Resource Fund may be used to fund a certain
9 number of staffing positions at the Commission in a certain year and to pay for costs
10 incurred by CRISP in providing the technical assistance in certain fiscal years; and
11 generally relating to Health Equity Resource Communities.

12 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,

13 Article – Health – General

14 Section 20–1402(a) and 20–1407(a)

15 Annotated Code of Maryland

16 (2019 Replacement Volume and 2021 Supplement)

17 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

18 Article – Health – General

19 Section 20–1402(b)(2)(i), 20–1405(a)(1), and 20–1407(f)

20 Annotated Code of Maryland

21 (2019 Replacement Volume and 2021 Supplement)

22 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,

23 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article – Health – General

25 20–1402.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



8 (b) (2) (i) The Office of Minority Health and Health Disparities AND THE
9 **CHESAPEAKE REGIONAL INFORMATION SYSTEM FOR OUR PATIENTS (CRISP)** shall
10 provide technical assistance to the Commission in implementing the provisions of this
11 subtitle.

12 20-1405.

16 20-1407.

17 (a) There is a Health Equity Resource Community Reserve Fund.

18 (f) (1) [The] EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS
19 SUBSECTION, THE Fund may be used only to provide funding to the Commission for the
20 support of areas designated as Health Equity Resource Communities by providing grants
21 to community-based organizations, nonprofit hospitals, institutions of higher education,
22 local government agencies, health care practitioners, federally qualified health centers, and
23 community health workers to reduce health disparities, improve health outcomes, provide
24 addiction and mental health services, and reduce health costs and hospital admissions and
25 readmissions.

32 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July

1 1, 2022.