

# SENATE BILL 625

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EMERGENCY BILL

3lr2413

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By: **Senator Lam**

Introduced and read first time: February 6, 2023

Assigned to: Finance

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Maryland Medical Assistance Program and Maryland Children's Health**  
3 **Program – Continuous Eligibility**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring the Maryland Department of Health, subject to certain  
5 conditions, to adopt a certain continuous eligibility period for children under the  
6 Maryland Medical Assistance Program and the Maryland Children's Health  
7 Program; requiring the Department, subject to certain conditions, to adopt a certain  
8 continuous eligibility period for both adults and children under the Maryland  
9 Medical Assistance Program and the Maryland Children's Health Program under  
10 certain circumstances; and generally relating to eligibility for the Maryland Medical  
11 Assistance Program and the Maryland Children's Health Program.

12 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,  
13 Article – Health – General  
14 Section 15–103(a)(1)  
15 Annotated Code of Maryland  
16 (2019 Replacement Volume and 2022 Supplement)

17 BY adding to  
18 Article – Health – General  
19 Section 15–103(a)(5)  
20 Annotated Code of Maryland  
21 (2019 Replacement Volume and 2022 Supplement)

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

24 **Article – Health – General**

25 15–103.

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (a) (1) The Secretary shall administer the Maryland Medical Assistance  
2 Program.

3 (5) SUBJECT TO THE LIMITATIONS OF THE STATE BUDGET, AND AS  
4 PERMITTED BY FEDERAL LAW, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL:

5 (i) SUBJECT TO ITEM (ii)2 OF THIS PARAGRAPH, ADOPT  
6 12-MONTH CONTINUOUS ELIGIBILITY FOR CHILDREN UNDER THE PROGRAM AND  
7 THE MARYLAND CHILDREN'S HEALTH PROGRAM; AND

8 (ii) 1. ON OR BEFORE JANUARY 1, 2024, APPLY TO THE  
9 CENTERS FOR MEDICARE AND MEDICAID SERVICES FOR A STATE PLAN  
10 AMENDMENT OR WAIVER UNDER § 1115 OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY ACT, IF  
11 NECESSARY, TO ADOPT 24-MONTH CONTINUOUS ELIGIBILITY FOR ADULTS AND  
12 CHILDREN UNDER THE PROGRAM AND THE MARYLAND CHILDREN'S HEALTH  
13 PROGRAM; AND

14 2. IF APPROVED BY THE CENTERS FOR MEDICARE AND  
15 MEDICAID SERVICE, ADOPT 24-MONTH CONTINUOUS ELIGIBILITY FOR ADULTS AND  
16 CHILDREN UNDER THE PROGRAM AND THE MARYLAND CHILDREN'S HEALTH  
17 PROGRAM.

18 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act is an emergency  
19 measure, is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public health or safety, has  
20 been passed by a ye and nay vote supported by three-fifths of all the members elected to  
21 each of the two Houses of the General Assembly, and shall take effect from the date it is  
22 enacted.