

Chapter 612

(Senate Bill 554)

AN ACT concerning

**Maryland National Guard – Tricare Premium Reimbursement Program –
Establishment
(Health Care for Heroes Act of 2023)**

FOR the purpose of establishing the Tricare Premium Reimbursement Program in the Military Department for the Department to award grants to reimburse certain members of the National Guard for the cost of premiums for certain health care and dental care plans; requiring the Department to adopt regulations to administer and implement the Program; and generally relating to the Tricare Premium Reimbursement Program.

BY adding to

Article – Public Safety
Section 13–411
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2022 Replacement Volume)

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

Article – Public Safety

13–411.

(A) IN THIS SECTION, “ELIGIBLE RECIPIENT” MEANS AN INDIVIDUAL WHO IS:

- (1) ELIGIBLE FOR TRICARE RESERVE SELECT COVERAGE; AND**
- (2) A MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL GUARD.**

(B) THERE IS A TRICARE PREMIUM REIMBURSEMENT PROGRAM IN THE DEPARTMENT.

(C) ~~THE~~ SUBJECT TO SUBSECTION (D) OF THIS SECTION, THE DEPARTMENT MAY AWARD GRANTS TO AN ELIGIBLE RECIPIENT WHO MEETS THE REIMBURSEMENT APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS FOR ANY OF THE FOLLOWING:

(1) A PREMIUM PAID FOR INDIVIDUAL COVERAGE THROUGH THE TRICARE RESERVE SELECT PROGRAM;

(2) A PREMIUM PAID FOR ANY MEMBER OF THE IMMEDIATE FAMILY OF AN ELIGIBLE RECIPIENT COVERED UNDER THE TRICARE RESERVE SELECT PROGRAM;

(3) A PREMIUM PAID FOR INDIVIDUAL COVERAGE UNDER THE TRICARE DENTAL PROGRAM; OR

(4) A PREMIUM PAID FOR ANY MEMBER OF THE IMMEDIATE FAMILY OF AN ELIGIBLE RECIPIENT RECEIVING DENTAL BENEFITS UNDER THE TRICARE DENTAL PROGRAM.

(D) A GRANT AWARD TO AN ELIGIBLE RECIPIENT MAY REIMBURSE THE ELIGIBLE RECIPIENT FOR UP TO \$60 OF THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF PREMIUMS PAID EACH MONTH BY THE ELIGIBLE RECIPIENT FOR THE COVERAGES LISTED UNDER SUBSECTION (C) OF THIS SECTION.

~~(D)~~ (E) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ADOPT REGULATIONS TO IMPLEMENT AND ADMINISTER THE TRICARE PREMIUM REIMBURSEMENT PROGRAM ESTABLISHED UNDER THIS SECTION.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2023.

Approved by the Governor, May 12, 2023.