

HOUSE BILL 255

O2, P1

(PRE-FILED)

4r0226
CF SB 223

By: **Chair, Health and Government Operations Committee (By Request –
Departmental – Aging)**

Requested: September 15, 2023

Introduced and read first time: January 10, 2024

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Interagency Committee on Aging Services – Repeal**

3 FOR the purpose of repealing the provisions of law establishing and governing the
4 Interagency Committee on Aging Services; and generally relating to the Interagency
5 Committee on Aging Services.

6 BY repealing

7 Article – Human Services

8 Section 10–301 through 10–310 and the subtitle “Subtitle 3. Interagency Committee
9 on Aging Services”

10 Annotated Code of Maryland

11 (2019 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)

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

14 **Article – Human Services**

15 [Subtitle 3. Interagency Committee on Aging Services.]

16 [10–301.

17 There is an Interagency Committee on Aging Services in the Executive Department.]

18 [10–302.

19 (a) The Interagency Committee consists of the following members:

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



- 1 (1) the Secretary of Aging;
- 2 (2) the Secretary of Disabilities;
- 3 (3) the Secretary of Health;
- 4 (4) the Secretary of Housing and Community Development;
- 5 (5) the Secretary of Human Services;
- 6 (6) the Secretary of Labor;
- 7 (7) the Secretary of Transportation;
- 8 (8) the Secretary of Veterans Affairs;
- 9 (9) the Director of the Governor's Office of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing;
- 10 (10) the Chair of the Commission on Aging;
- 11 (11) a representative from an area agency appointed by the Governor from
12 a list submitted by the Maryland Association of Area Agencies on Aging; and
- 13 (12) a member of the public appointed by the Governor.

14 (b) (1) The term of a member appointed by the Governor under subsection
15 (a)(11) or (12) of this section is 2 years.

16 (2) A member appointed by the Governor under subsection (a)(11) or (12)
17 of this section may not be reappointed for more than 2 additional terms.]

18 [10-303.

19 The Governor shall appoint the chair of the Interagency Committee from among the
20 members listed in § 10-302(a)(1) through (7) of this subtitle.]

21 [10-304.

22 (a) (1) An Executive Director shall serve as the principal staff of the
23 Interagency Committee.

24 (2) The Executive Director shall be an employee of the Department.

25 (b) Each member of the Interagency Committee listed in § 10-302(a)(1) through
26 (7) of this subtitle shall designate an employee as liaison with the Executive Director to:

27 (1) implement policies of the Interagency Committee; and

1 (2) monitor the expenditure of funds to serve seniors.]

2 [10-305.

3 (a) The Interagency Committee shall meet at least quarterly.

4 (b) The chair shall designate at least one meeting each year as an executive
5 meeting.

6 (c) A member of the Interagency Committee may send a designee to represent the
7 member at any meeting that is not an executive meeting.]

8 [10-306.

9 (a) (1) The Interagency Committee shall develop and update annually a plan
10 for providing coordinated health services, social services, transportation, housing, and
11 employment services to seniors in the State consistent with the priorities that the
12 Department establishes.

13 (2) If the members of the Interagency Committee cannot agree on a plan,
14 the chair shall refer the matter to the Governor for resolution.

15 (b) The Interagency Committee shall establish interagency agreements and adopt
16 regulations to:

17 (1) implement and coordinate services to seniors consistent with the plan
18 developed under subsection (a) of this section;

19 (2) maximize the sharing of resources among units of State government for
20 services to seniors;

21 (3) consolidate planning and evaluation efforts at the State and local levels;
22 and

23 (4) coordinate and expedite the delivery of services to seniors by providing
24 technical assistance to local agencies.

25 (c) (1) The Interagency Committee shall assist county agencies to establish
26 local interagency committees composed of:

27 (i) the directors of the local health department, local department of
28 social services, and area agency; and

29 (ii) officials from housing, transportation, mental health,
30 employment, and economic development agencies.

1 (2) Local interagency committees shall coordinate and expedite the
2 delivery of services to seniors at the local level.]

3 [10-307.

4 (a) (1) The Interagency Committee shall establish and coordinate a program
5 to provide single points of entry within each planning and service area.

6 (2) The Department shall supervise the program for the Interagency
7 Committee.

8 (b) Each area agency shall operate a single point of entry program to assess the
9 needs of seniors and their caregivers and provide appropriate services.

10 (c) The following services shall be provided through a single point of entry:

11 (1) providing current information on available programs, services, or
12 benefits;

13 (2) determining the service needs of each senior who requests service;

14 (3) processing requests for service from seniors;

15 (4) through widely publicized local outreach facilities and communications
16 systems, providing access to available public and private programs and services for seniors,
17 including:

18 (i) transportation services;

19 (ii) health and nutrition services;

20 (iii) financial assistance;

21 (iv) social services;

22 (v) educational services;

23 (vi) services available through volunteer organizations or private
24 agencies;

25 (vii) appropriate housing arrangements;

26 (viii) health insurance counseling;

27 (ix) employment and volunteer opportunities;

28 (x) respite care services; and

1 (xi) other programs, information, counseling, or benefits for seniors;

2 (5) monitoring the outcome of requests for service or information; and

3 (6) arranging with other agencies for individual assessment to determine
4 the service needs of a frail or health-impaired senior.

5 (d) To the extent possible, each single point of entry shall be:

6 (1) located in a senior citizen center; and

7 (2) available for access at least 5 days a week.

8 (e) Local interagency committees on services to seniors shall make agreements
9 among themselves and with other agencies to provide staff on a regular basis at the single
10 points of entry to:

11 (1) provide information and services to seniors; and

12 (2) administer agency programs.]

13 [10-308.

14 Each planning and service area shall have a telephone information and referral
15 service that is available on a 24-hour basis.]

16 [10-309.

17 (a) (1) The Interagency Committee shall:

18 (i) develop a system to provide services to frail or health-impaired
19 seniors at risk of institutionalization; and

20 (ii) coordinate the system among the agencies represented on the
21 Interagency Committee.

22 (2) The Department shall administer the system for the Interagency
23 Committee.

24 (b) The services shall include:

25 (1) integrated screening and evaluation;

26 (2) development of an individual plan of care;

1 (3) in-home services such as minor home repair, shopping assistance,
2 homemaking, personal care, meal delivery or preparation, supportive services to group or
3 shared living arrangements, transportation services, and health services; and

4 (4) community services such as day care, congregate meals, and other
5 programs to assist seniors or adult caregivers in providing care for seniors.

6 (c) To be eligible to participate in the system, a county or counties shall establish
7 a community-based plan that:

8 (1) is developed by a local or regional committee composed of:

9 (i) the directors of the local health department, local department of
10 social services, and area agency; and

11 (ii) officials of other relevant agencies, such as local housing,
12 transportation, employment, and economic development officials;

13 (2) is consistent with the plan developed under § 10-306(a) of this subtitle;

14 (3) specifies administrative arrangements to evaluate and develop care
15 plans for frail or health-impaired seniors;

16 (4) encourages further coordination of service delivery;

17 (5) fosters individual contributions for services provided;

18 (6) fosters the development of innovative service delivery;

19 (7) fosters the development of services in conjunction with the private
20 sector; and

21 (8) fosters community involvement through the use of volunteers.

22 (d) The Interagency Committee, through the Department, shall work with local
23 health departments, local departments of social services, area agencies, and local housing,
24 transportation, economic development, and employment development officials to develop:

25 (1) a system to designate case managers to secure and manage necessary
26 services for each frail or health-impaired senior in need; and

27 (2) guidelines to establish local or regional committees to coordinate the
28 services system to implement this section.]

29 [10-310.

1 Subject to § 2–1257 of the State Government Article, the Interagency Committee
2 shall present a report before each legislative session to the General Assembly on:

- 3 (1) the plan developed under § 10–306(a) of this subtitle;
- 4 (2) the activities of the Interagency Committee; and
- 5 (3) the status of services to seniors in the State.]

6 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall be construed to
7 apply only prospectively and may not be applied or interpreted to have any effect on or
8 application to any estate of a decedent who died before the effective date of this Act.

9 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
10 1, 2024.