

HOUSE BILL 953

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EMERGENCY BILL

4lr2848
CF SB 701

By: **Delegates Pena–Melnik, Boyce, Cullison, Harris, Lehman, and Taveras**

Introduced and read first time: February 2, 2024

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

Committee Report: Favorable

House action: Adopted

Read second time: February 26, 2024

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Maryland Health Benefit Exchange – State–Based Young Adult Health**
3 **Insurance Subsidies Pilot Program – Amount of Annual Subsidies**

4 FOR the purpose of altering the amount of funds the Maryland Health Benefit Exchange
5 is authorized to designate for annual subsidies under the State–Based Young Adult
6 Health Insurance Subsidies Pilot Program for certain fiscal years to include unspent
7 funds designated for subsidies for young adults in a previous calendar year; and
8 generally relating to the State–Based Young Adult Health Insurance Subsidies Pilot
9 Program.

10 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
11 Article – Insurance
12 Section 31–122(a), (d), (f), and (g)
13 Annotated Code of Maryland
14 (2017 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)

15 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
16 Article – Insurance
17 Section 31–122(e)
18 Annotated Code of Maryland
19 (2017 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)

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

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

Article – Insurance

2 31–122.

3 (a) In this section, “Pilot Program” means the State–Based Young Adult Health
4 Insurance Subsidies Pilot Program.

5 (d) (1) For calendar years 2022 through 2025, the Exchange, in consultation
6 with the Commissioner and as approved by the Board, shall establish subsidy eligibility
7 and payment parameters for the Pilot Program.

8 (2) In determining the subsidy eligibility and payment parameters
9 required under paragraph (1) of this subsection, the Exchange shall consider:

10 (i) young adults at least 18 years old and under the age of 41 years;
11 and

12 (ii) income groups between 133% and 400% of the federal poverty
13 level.

14 (e) **(1)** Subject to available funds **AND PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS**
15 **SUBSECTION**, in each of fiscal years 2022 through 2026, the Exchange may designate funds
16 from the Fund to be used for the Pilot Program so that [not more than \$20,000,000 in]
17 annual subsidies may be provided to young adults who meet the subsidy eligibility and
18 payment parameters established under subsection (d) of this section.

19 **(2) FOR EACH OF CALENDAR YEARS 2024 AND 2025, THE FUNDS**
20 **DESIGNATED UNDER PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION MAY NOT EXCEED**
21 **\$20,000,000 PLUS ANY UNSPENT FUNDS DESIGNATED FOR SUBSIDIES FOR YOUNG**
22 **ADULTS IN A PREVIOUS CALENDAR YEAR.**

23 (f) The Exchange shall adopt regulations implementing the provisions of this
24 section.

25 (g) The Exchange shall adopt regulations to provide a subsidy to cover 100% of
26 the cost of the premium for young adults who have a 0% expected contribution under the
27 subsidy eligibility parameters established under subsection (d) of this section.

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