

SENATE BILL 975

J1

4lr2597
CF HB 1091

By: **Senators Elfreth, Gile, Hettleman, ~~and Kelly Kelly, and Lam Lam, Kagan, Carter, M. Washington, Kramer, Feldman, Ellis, King, Smith, Guzzone, Lewis Young, Sydnor, and Brooks~~**

Introduced and read first time: February 2, 2024
Assigned to: Finance

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments
Senate action: Adopted with floor amendments
Read second time: March 18, 2024

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 ~~Public Safety~~ **Maryland Department of Health – Reproductive Health Care**
3 **Clinic Security Grant Program – Establishment**
4 **(Supporting Reproductive Health Care Clinics Act)**

5 FOR the purpose of establishing the Reproductive Health Care Clinic Security Grant
6 Program in the ~~Governor’s Office of Crime Prevention, Youth, and Victim Services~~
7 Maryland Department of Health to assist reproductive health care clinics in the
8 State with costs associated with security improvements and safety operational
9 expenses; and generally relating to the Reproductive Health Care Clinic Security
10 Grant Program.

11 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,

12 Article – Health – General
13 Section 4–301(a), (h), and (j)
14 Annotated Code of Maryland
15 (2023 Replacement Volume)

16 BY adding to

17 Article – ~~Public Safety~~ Health – General
18 Section ~~4–1701~~ 13–5201 to be under the new subtitle “Subtitle ~~17. 52.~~ Reproductive
19 Health Care Clinic Security Grant Program”
20 Annotated Code of Maryland
21 ~~(2022 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)~~ (2023 Replacement Volume)

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

3 **Article – Health – General**

4 4–301.

5 (a) In this subtitle the following words have the meanings indicated.

6 (h) (1) “Health care provider” means:

7 (i) A person who is licensed, certified, or otherwise authorized under
8 the Health Occupations Article or § 13–516 of the Education Article to provide health care
9 in the ordinary course of business or practice of a profession or in an approved education or
10 training program; or

11 (ii) A facility where health care is provided to patients or recipients,
12 including a facility as defined in § 10–101(g) of this article, a hospital as defined in §
13 19–301 of this article, a related institution as defined in § 19–301 of this article, a health
14 maintenance organization as defined in § 19–701(g) of this article, an outpatient clinic, a
15 medical laboratory, a comprehensive crisis response center, a crisis stabilization center,
16 and a crisis treatment center established under § 7.5–207 of this article.

17 (2) “Health care provider” includes the agents, employees, officers, and
18 directors of a facility and the agents and employees of a health care provider.

19 (j) “Legally protected health care” means all reproductive health services,
20 medications, and supplies related to:

21 (1) The provision of abortion care; and

22 (2) Other sensitive health services as determined by the Secretary based
23 on the recommendations of the Protected Health Care Commission established under §
24 4–310 of this subtitle.

25 ~~**Article – Public Safety**~~

26 **SUBTITLE ~~17~~ 52. REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH CARE CLINIC SECURITY GRANT**
27 **PROGRAM.**

28 ~~**4–1701, 13–5201.**~~

29 (A) (1) **IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS**
30 **INDICATED.**

1 ~~(2) “EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR” MEANS THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF~~
2 ~~THE GOVERNOR’S OFFICE OF CRIME PREVENTION, YOUTH, AND VICTIM SERVICES.~~

3 ~~(3)~~ (2) “PROGRAM” MEANS THE REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH CARE
4 CLINIC SECURITY GRANT PROGRAM.

5 (3) “REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH CARE CLINIC” MEANS A HEALTH CARE
6 PROVIDER, AS DEFINED IN § 4-301(H)(1)(II) OF THIS ARTICLE, THAT PROVIDES
7 LEGALLY PROTECTED HEALTH CARE, AS DEFINED IN § 4-301(J) OF THIS ARTICLE.

8 (B) THERE IS A REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH CARE CLINIC SECURITY GRANT
9 PROGRAM IN THE ~~GOVERNOR’S OFFICE OF CRIME PREVENTION, YOUTH, AND~~
10 ~~VICTIM SERVICES~~ DEPARTMENT.

11 (C) THE ~~EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR~~ SECRETARY SHALL ADMINISTER THE
12 PROGRAM.

13 (D) THE PURPOSE OF THE PROGRAM IS TO ASSIST REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH
14 CARE CLINICS IN THE STATE WITH THE COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH SECURITY
15 IMPROVEMENTS, INCLUDING INTERIOR AND EXTERIOR FACILITY HARDENING,
16 PERIMETER LIGHTING, FENCING AND OTHER BARRIERS, DOOR LOCKS AND ACCESS
17 CONTROL SYSTEMS, SECURITY CAMERAS, ALARMS, PANIC BUTTONS, LOCKDOWN
18 SYSTEMS, AND PUBLIC ADDRESS SYSTEMS.

19 (E) THE ~~EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR~~ SECRETARY SHALL ESTABLISH
20 PROCEDURES FOR:

21 (1) THE APPLICATION AND AWARD PROCESSES; AND

22 (2) THE CRITERIA A REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH CARE CLINIC MUST
23 MEET TO QUALIFY FOR A GRANT UNDER THE PROGRAM.

24 (F) (1) FOR FISCAL YEAR 2026, THE GOVERNOR MAY INCLUDE IN THE
25 ANNUAL BUDGET BILL AN APPROPRIATION OF \$500,000 TO THE PROGRAM.

26 (2) UP TO 5% OF THE MONEY APPROPRIATED TO THE PROGRAM MAY
27 BE USED FOR ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES.

28 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
29 October 1, 2024.