

HOUSE BILL 1552

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5lr3650

By: **Delegate Wims**

Introduced and read first time: February 25, 2025

Assigned to: Rules and Executive Nominations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Maryland Commission for Men’s Health – Reestablishment**

3 FOR the purpose of reestablishing the Maryland Commission for Men’s Health in the
4 Maryland Department of Health; and generally relating to the Maryland
5 Commission for Men’s Health.

6 BY adding to

7 Article – Health – General

8 Section 13–2401 through 13–2409 to be under the new subtitle “Subtitle 24.

9 Maryland Commission for Men’s Health”

10 Annotated Code of Maryland

11 (2023 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)

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

14 **Article – Health – General**

15 **SUBTITLE 24. MARYLAND COMMISSION FOR MEN’S HEALTH.**

16 **13–2401.**

17 **IN THIS SUBTITLE, “COMMISSION” MEANS THE MARYLAND COMMISSION FOR**
18 **MEN’S HEALTH.**

19 **13–2402.**

20 **THERE IS A MARYLAND COMMISSION FOR MEN’S HEALTH IN THE**
21 **DEPARTMENT.**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 **13-2403.**

2 (A) **THE COMMISSION CONSISTS OF:**

3 (1) **FOUR INDIVIDUALS APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR, WITH THE**
4 **ADVICE AND CONSENT OF THE SENATE;**

5 (2) **FOUR INDIVIDUALS APPOINTED BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE**
6 **SENATE; AND**

7 (3) **FOUR INDIVIDUALS APPOINTED BY THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE.**

8 (B) (1) **THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION SHALL BE**
9 **APPOINTED FROM AMONG APPLICANTS WHO HAVE BEEN NOMINATED AND**
10 **RECOMMENDED FOR APPOINTMENT BY ORGANIZATIONS LOCATED IN THE STATE**
11 **WHOSE INTERESTS RELATE TO MEN'S HEALTH OR FAMILY INVOLVEMENT:**

12 (I) **TWO MEMBERS APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR;**

13 (II) **TWO MEMBERS APPOINTED BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE**
14 **SENATE; AND**

15 (III) **TWO MEMBERS APPOINTED BY THE SPEAKER OF THE**
16 **HOUSE.**

17 (2) **THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION SHALL BE**
18 **APPOINTED FROM APPLICANTS APPLYING ON THEIR OWN BEHALF:**

19 (I) **TWO MEMBERS APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR;**

20 (II) **TWO MEMBERS APPOINTED BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE**
21 **SENATE; AND**

22 (III) **TWO MEMBERS APPOINTED BY THE SPEAKER OF THE**
23 **HOUSE.**

24 (C) (1) **THE TERM OF A MEMBER IS 4 YEARS.**

25 (2) **AT THE END OF A TERM, THE MEMBER CONTINUES TO SERVE**
26 **UNTIL A SUCCESSOR IS APPOINTED AND QUALIFIES.**

1 **(3) A MEMBER WHO IS APPOINTED AFTER A TERM HAS BEGUN SERVES**
2 **ONLY FOR THE REST OF THE TERM AND UNTIL A SUCCESSOR IS APPOINTED AND**
3 **QUALIFIES.**

4 **(4) A MEMBER MAY NOT SERVE MORE THAN TWO CONSECUTIVE**
5 **TERMS.**

6 **(D) A MEMBER:**

7 **(1) MAY NOT RECEIVE COMPENSATION AS A MEMBER OF THE**
8 **COMMISSION; BUT**

9 **(2) IS ENTITLED TO REIMBURSEMENT FOR EXPENSES UNDER THE**
10 **STANDARD STATE TRAVEL REGULATIONS, AS PROVIDED IN THE STATE BUDGET.**

11 **(E) A MEMBER WHO FAILS TO ATTEND AT LEAST 50% OF THE REGULARLY**
12 **SCHEDULED MEETINGS DURING A 12-MONTH PERIOD SHALL BE CONSIDERED TO**
13 **HAVE RESIGNED.**

14 **13-2404.**

15 **(A) THE COMMISSION SHALL ELECT A CHAIR AND A VICE CHAIR FROM**
16 **AMONG ITS MEMBERS.**

17 **(B) THE COMMISSION MAY APPOINT ANY OFFICERS THAT IT CONSIDERS**
18 **NECESSARY TO CARRY OUT ITS DUTIES.**

19 **13-2405.**

20 **(A) THE COMMISSION SHALL:**

21 **(1) DEVELOP STRATEGIES AND PROGRAMS, INCLUDING COMMUNITY**
22 **OUTREACH AND PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS, DESIGNED TO:**

23 **(i) RAISE PUBLIC AWARENESS OF MEN'S HEALTH ISSUES,**
24 **INCLUDING HEALTH PROBLEMS THAT DISPROPORTIONATELY AFFECT MEN AND THE**
25 **IMPORTANCE OF PATERNAL INFLUENCE IN THE FAMILY;**

26 **(ii) ENCOURAGE THE PARTICIPATION OF MEN IN HEALTHY**
27 **BEHAVIORS AND FAMILY INVOLVEMENT;**

1 (III) EDUCATE MARYLAND MEN ON THE BENEFITS OF REGULAR
2 PHYSICIAN CHECKUPS, EARLY DETECTION AND PREVENTIVE HEALTH SCREENING
3 TESTS, AND HEALTHY LIFESTYLE PRACTICES; AND

4 (IV) REDUCE OR ELIMINATE DISPARITIES IN MORBIDITY AND
5 MORTALITY FOR SPECIFIC DISEASES AMONG RACIAL AND ETHNIC MINORITIES AND
6 UNDERSERVED POPULATIONS;

7 (2) REVIEW THE HEALTH STATUS OF MEN IN THE STATE AND FOCUS
8 ON HEALTH OUTCOMES OF MEN FOR SPECIFIC DISEASES, INCLUDING PROSTATE
9 AND TESTICULAR CANCER, ORAL CANCER, CARDIOVASCULAR DISEASE,
10 DEPRESSION, AND DIABETES;

11 (3) ORGANIZE COMMUNITY WORKSHOPS TO IDENTIFY ISSUES
12 AFFECTING MEN'S HEALTH AND FAMILY INVOLVEMENT;

13 (4) MONITOR FEDERAL AND STATE POLICY AND LEGISLATION THAT
14 MAY AFFECT THE AREAS OF MEN'S HEALTH AND FAMILY INVOLVEMENT; AND

15 (5) RECOMMEND ASSISTANCE, SERVICES, AND POLICY CHANGES
16 THAT WILL FURTHER THE GOALS OF THE COMMISSION.

17 (B) THE COMMISSION SHALL CONSIDER POPULATION DIVERSITY WHEN
18 CARRYING OUT THE DUTIES ESTABLISHED UNDER SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS
19 SECTION.

20 13-2406.

21 (A) THE COMMISSION, SUBJECT TO THE APPROVAL OF THE SECRETARY,
22 MAY ACCEPT:

23 (1) FEDERAL FUNDS FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS ARTICLE; AND

24 (2) PRIVATE GIFTS AND DONATIONS FROM INDIVIDUALS, PRIVATE
25 ORGANIZATIONS, OR FOUNDATIONS.

26 (B) THE ACCEPTANCE AND USE OF FEDERAL FUNDS MAY NOT BE
27 CONSIDERED A COMMITMENT OF STATE FUNDS AND PLACES NO OBLIGATION ON
28 THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO CONTINUE THE PURPOSE FOR WHICH THE FUNDS ARE
29 AVAILABLE.

30 13-2407.

1 **EACH UNIT OF STATE GOVERNMENT SHALL FULLY COOPERATE WITH THE**
2 **COMMISSION IN THE PERFORMANCE OF ITS DUTIES.**

3 **13-2408.**

4 **ON OR BEFORE SEPTEMBER 30 EACH YEAR, THE COMMISSION SHALL SUBMIT**
5 **AN ANNUAL REPORT TO THE GOVERNOR AND, IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 2-1257 OF**
6 **THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE, THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY THAT INCLUDES**
7 **RECOMMENDATIONS BASED ON ITS ACTIVITIES.**

8 **13-2409.**

9 **THE COMMISSION MAY NOT ADOPT REGULATIONS.**

10 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, in making appointments
11 under this Act, the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House
12 shall ensure:

13 (1) to the extent practicable, geographic diversity among the membership
14 of the Maryland Commission for Men's Health; and

15 (2) that appointments are made without regard to the race, color,
16 disability, gender, religion, age, or national origin of the appointees.

17 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
18 October 1, 2025. It shall remain effective for a period of 4 years and, at the end of September
19 30, 2029, this Act with no further action required by the General Assembly, shall be
20 abrogated and of no further force and effect.