

SENATE BILL 508

J5, J1, J4

5lr3070
CF HB 381

By: **Senator Henson**

Introduced and read first time: January 23, 2025

Assigned to: Finance

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Maryland Medical Assistance Program and Health Insurance – Required**
3 **Coverage for Aesthetic Services and Restorative Care for Victims of Domestic**
4 **Violence**
5 **(Healing Our Scars Act)**

6 FOR the purpose of requiring the Maryland Medical Assistance Program and certain
7 insurers, nonprofit health service plans, health maintenance organizations, and
8 managed care organizations to provide coverage to victims of domestic violence for
9 certain aesthetic services and restorative care; and generally relating to coverage for
10 aesthetic services and restorative care for victims of domestic violence by the
11 Maryland Medical Assistance Program and health insurance carriers.

12 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
13 Article – Family Law
14 Section 4–501(a) and (d) and 4–513
15 Annotated Code of Maryland
16 (2019 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)

17 BY adding to
18 Article – Health – General
19 Section 15–102.3(m) and 15–103(a)(2)(xxv)
20 Annotated Code of Maryland
21 (2023 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)

22 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
23 Article – Health – General
24 Section 15–103(a)(1)
25 Annotated Code of Maryland
26 (2023 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)

27 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 Article – Health – General
2 Section 15–103(a)(2)(xxiii) and (xxiv)
3 Annotated Code of Maryland
4 (2023 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)

5 BY adding to
6 Article – Insurance
7 Section 15–861
8 Annotated Code of Maryland
9 (2017 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)

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

12 **Article – Family Law**

13 4–501.

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

15 (d) “Cohabitant” means a person who has had a sexual relationship with the
16 respondent and resided with the respondent in the home for a period of at least 90 days
17 within 1 year before the filing of the petition.

18 4–513.

19 In this Part III of this subtitle, “victim of domestic violence” means an individual
20 who has received deliberate, severe, and demonstrable physical injury, or is in fear of
21 imminent deliberate, severe, and demonstrable physical injury from a current or former
22 spouse, or a current or former cohabitant, as defined in § 4–501 of this subtitle.

23 **Article – Health – General**

24 15–102.3.

25 **(M) THE PROVISIONS OF § 15–861 OF THE INSURANCE ARTICLE APPLY TO**
26 **MANAGED CARE ORGANIZATIONS IN THE SAME MANNER THEY APPLY TO CARRIERS.**

27 15–103.

28 (a) (1) The Secretary shall administer the Maryland Medical Assistance
29 Program.

30 (2) The Program:

1 (xxiii) Beginning on July 1, 2025, shall provide, subject to the
2 limitations of the State budget, and as permitted by federal law, coverage for biomarker
3 testing in accordance with § 15–859 of the Insurance Article; [and]

4 (xxiv) Beginning on January 1, 2025, shall provide coverage for
5 prostheses in accordance with § 15–844 of the Insurance Article; AND

6 (XXV) BEGINNING ON JANUARY 1, 2026, SHALL PROVIDE
7 COVERAGE TO VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE FOR AESTHETIC SERVICES AND
8 RESTORATIVE CARE IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 15–861 OF THE INSURANCE ARTICLE.

9 **Article – Insurance**

10 **15–861.**

11 (A) IN THIS SECTION, “VICTIM OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE” HAS THE MEANING
12 STATED IN § 4–513 OF THE FAMILY LAW ARTICLE.

13 (B) THIS SECTION APPLIES TO:

14 (1) INSURERS AND NONPROFIT HEALTH SERVICE PLANS THAT
15 PROVIDE HOSPITAL, MEDICAL, OR SURGICAL BENEFITS TO INDIVIDUALS OR GROUPS
16 ON AN EXPENSE–INCURRED BASIS UNDER HEALTH INSURANCE POLICIES OR
17 CONTRACTS THAT ARE ISSUED OR DELIVERED IN THE STATE; AND

18 (2) HEALTH MAINTENANCE ORGANIZATIONS THAT PROVIDE
19 HOSPITAL, MEDICAL, OR SURGICAL BENEFITS TO INDIVIDUALS OR GROUPS UNDER
20 CONTRACTS THAT ARE ISSUED OR DELIVERED IN THE STATE.

21 (C) AN ENTITY SUBJECT TO THIS SECTION SHALL PROVIDE COVERAGE TO
22 VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE FOR AESTHETIC SERVICES AND RESTORATIVE
23 CARE:

24 (1) PROVIDED FOR THE TREATMENT OF PHYSICAL INJURIES CAUSED
25 BY DOMESTIC VIOLENCE; AND

26 (2) DETERMINED TO BE MEDICALLY NECESSARY BY A PHYSICIAN WHO
27 IS LICENSED TO PRACTICE MEDICINE UNDER THE HEALTH OCCUPATIONS ARTICLE.

28 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall apply to all
29 policies, contracts, and health benefit plans issued, delivered, or renewed in the State on or
30 after January 1, 2026.

1 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
2 January 1, 2026.