

# SENATE BILL 776

J5, J3

(5lr3286)

## ENROLLED BILL

— Finance/Health and Government Operations —

Introduced by **Senator Beidle**

Read and Examined by Proofreaders:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Proofreader.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Proofreader.

Sealed with the Great Seal and presented to the Governor, for his approval this

\_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_ o'clock, \_\_\_\_\_ M.

\_\_\_\_\_  
President.

### CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Workgroup to Study the Rise in Adverse Decisions in the State Health Care**  
3 **System – Establishment**

4 FOR the purpose of establishing the Workgroup to Study the Rise in Adverse Decisions in  
5 the State Health Care System; and generally relating to the Workgroup to Study the  
6 Rise in Adverse Decisions in the State Health Care System.

7 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,  
8 That:

9 (a) There is a Workgroup to Study the Rise in Adverse Decisions in the State  
10 Health Care System.

11 (b) The Workgroup consists of the following members:

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#### 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.

*Italics* indicate opposite chamber/conference committee amendments.



- 1 (1) one member of the Senate of Maryland, appointed by the President of  
2 the Senate;
- 3 (2) one member of the House of Delegates, appointed by the Speaker of the  
4 House;
- 5 (3) the Maryland Insurance Commissioner, or the Commissioner's  
6 designee;
- 7 ~~(4) the Secretary of Health, or the Secretary's designee;~~
- 8 ~~(5)~~ (4) the Deputy Secretary of the Maryland Medicaid Program, or the Deputy  
9 Secretary's designee;
- 10 ~~(6)~~ (5) the Executive Director of the Health Services Cost Review Commission,  
11 or the Executive Director's designee;
- 12 ~~(7)~~ (6) the Executive Director of the Maryland Health Care Commission, or the  
13 Executive Director's designee;
- 14 ~~(8)~~ (7) the Executive Director of the Chesapeake Regional Information System  
15 for our Patients, or the Executive Director's designee; ~~and~~
- 16 (8) the Director of the Health Education and Advocacy Unit of the Office of  
17 the Attorney General, or the Director's designee; and
- 18 (9) the following members, appointed by the ~~President of the Senate and~~  
19 ~~Speaker of the House~~ Governor:
- 20 (i) one representative of the Maryland Hospital Association;
- 21 (ii) one representative of the League of Life and Health Insurers;
- 22 (iii) one representative of a managed care plan;
- 23 (iv) two representatives of Maryland hospitals, with one  
24 representative from a large hospital system and one representative from a community  
25 hospital;
- 26 (v) one pharmacy services provider;
- 27 (vi) one behavioral health provider;
- 28 (vii) one representative of a commercial carrier; ~~and~~
- 29 (viii) one representative of a patient advocacy organization;



1 3. adverse decisions; and

2 4. medical necessity;

3 (ii) a standardized method for categorizing adverse decisions and  
4 prior authorization denials;

5 (iii) a standardized process for reporting grievances or filing  
6 complaints and appealing adverse decisions; and

7 (iv) a standardized method for reporting clinical outcomes, including  
8 National Committee for Quality Assurance ratings and Centers for Medicare and Medicaid  
9 Services star ratings;

10 (3) develop strategies for, and make recommendations to reduce, the  
11 number of adverse decisions; and

12 (4) develop recommendations for legislation to address the rise in adverse  
13 decisions and standardize State reporting requirements regarding adverse decisions across  
14 all payers.

15 (g) On or before December 1, 2025, the Workgroup shall report its findings and  
16 recommendations to the Senate Finance Committee and the House Health and  
17 Government Operations Committee, in accordance with § 2-1257 of the State Government  
18 Article.

19 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June  
20 1, 2025. It shall remain effective for a period of 1 year and 1 month and, at the end of June  
21 30, 2026, this Act, with no further action required by the General Assembly, shall be  
22 abrogated and of no further force and effect.

Approved:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Governor.

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President of the Senate.

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Speaker of the House of Delegates.