

Chapter 639

(House Bill 757)

AN ACT concerning

**Professional and Volunteer Firefighter Innovative Cancer Screening
Technologies Program – Funding**

FOR the purpose of ~~altering the fee for a license to transfer oil in the State; requiring the Department of the Environment to transfer a certain amount of the license fee to the Professional and Volunteer Firefighter Innovative Cancer Screening Technologies Program;~~ altering the amount the Governor is authorized to include in the annual budget for the Program; ~~requiring the Secretary of Health to use certain funds exclusively for the Program;~~ authorizing the Secretary to use up to a certain percentage of Program funds to support ~~academic medical~~ research centers for certain purposes; and generally relating to the Professional and Volunteer Firefighter Innovative Cancer Screening Technologies Program.

~~BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
Article – Environment
Section 4–411(a) and (b)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2013 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)~~

~~BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
Article – Environment
Section 4–411(e)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2013 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)~~

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
Article – Health – General
Section 13–4001
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2023 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
Article – Health – General
Section 13–4006
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2023 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)

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

~~Article – Environment~~

~~4-411.~~

~~(a) (1) In this section the following words have the meanings indicated.~~

~~(2) "Barrel" means any measure of petroleum products or its by-products which consists of 42.0 U.S. gallons of liquid measure.~~

~~(3) "Fund" means the Maryland Oil Disaster Containment, Clean Up and Contingency Fund.~~

~~(4) "Transfer" means the offloading or onloading of oil in the State from or to any commercial vessel, barge, tank truck, tank car, pipeline, or any other means used for transporting oil.~~

~~(b) A person other than a vessel or barge may not transfer oil in the State without a license.~~

~~(c) (1) A license required under this section shall be secured from the Department of the Environment subject to the terms and conditions set forth in this section.~~

~~(2) The fee on any barrel shall be imposed only once, at the point of first transfer in the State.~~

~~(3) The license fee shall be:~~

~~(i) Credited to the Maryland Oil Disaster Containment, Clean Up and Contingency Fund and based on:~~

~~1. Before July 1, 2024, a 7.75 cents per barrel fee for oil transferred in the State; [and]~~

~~2. On or after July 1, 2024, AND BEFORE JULY 1, 2025, a 5 cents per barrel fee for oil transferred in the State; and~~

~~3. ON OR AFTER JULY 1, 2025, A 9 CENTS PER BARREL FEE FOR OIL TRANSFERRED IN THE STATE; AND~~

~~(ii) Until July 1, 2024, based on an additional 0.25 cent per barrel fee for oil transferred in the State and credited to the Oil Contaminated Site Environmental Cleanup Fund as described in Subtitle 7 of this title.~~

~~(4) (1) BEGINNING IN FISCAL YEAR 2026, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL TRANSFER 4 CENTS OF THE AMOUNT COLLECTED FROM THE PER BARREL FEE IN PARAGRAPH (3)(1)3 OF THIS SUBSECTION TO THE PROFESSIONAL AND~~

~~VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER INNOVATIVE CANCER SCREENING TECHNOLOGIES PROGRAM ESTABLISHED UNDER § 13 4002 OF THE HEALTH GENERAL ARTICLE.~~

~~(H) FUNDS TRANSFERRED TO THE PROFESSIONAL AND VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER INNOVATIVE CANCER SCREENING TECHNOLOGIES PROGRAM UNDER SUBPARAGRAPH (I) OF THIS PARAGRAPH SHALL BE DISTRIBUTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 13 4006 OF THE HEALTH GENERAL ARTICLE.~~

~~[(4)](5) (i) The license fee shall be paid quarterly to the Department and on receipt by the Comptroller, credited to the proper fund.~~

~~(ii) The licensee shall certify to the Department, on forms as may be prescribed by the Department, the number of barrels of oil transferred by the licensee during the fee quarter no later than the last day of the month following the fee quarter.~~

~~(iii) These records shall be kept confidential by the Department.~~

~~[(5)](6) (I) [When] EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBPARAGRAPH (II) OF THIS PARAGRAPH, the balance in the Maryland Oil Disaster Containment, Clean-Up and Contingency Fund from the monthly license fees paid under paragraph (3)(i) of this subsection into the Fund equals or exceeds a maximum limit of \$5,000,000, collection of subsequent monthly license fees under paragraph (3)(i) of this subsection shall be abated until:~~

~~[(i)] 1. The balance in the Fund from the license fees becomes less than or equal to \$4,000,000; or~~

~~[(ii)] 2. There is evidence that the balance in the Fund could be significantly reduced by the recent occurrence of a major discharge or series of discharges.~~

~~(H) BEGINNING IN FISCAL YEAR 2026, THE FEE ABATEMENT AUTHORIZED UNDER SUBPARAGRAPH (I) OF THIS PARAGRAPH MAY NOT EXCEED 5 CENTS PER BARREL FOR OIL TRANSFERRED IN THE STATE.~~

~~[(6)](7) (i) If a licensee fails to remit the fee and accompanying certification required by this section, the amount of the license fee due shall be determined by the Department from information as may be available.~~

~~(ii) Notice of this determination shall be given to the licensee liable for payment of the license fee.~~

~~(iii) The determination shall finally and irrevocably fix the fee unless the licensee against whom it is assessed, within 30 days after receiving notice of the determination, shall apply to the Department for a hearing or unless the Department, on its own, shall redetermine the fee.~~

~~[(7)] (8) The Department shall promulgate rules and regulations, establish audit procedures for the audit of licensees, and prescribe and publish forms as may be necessary to effectuate the purposes of this section.~~

Article – Health – General

13–4001.

In this subtitle, “Program” means the Professional and Volunteer Firefighter Innovative Cancer Screening Technologies Program.

13–4006.

(a) (1) For fiscal years 2021 through 2024, the Governor shall include at least \$100,000 in the annual budget for the Program.

(2) For fiscal year 2025 and each fiscal year thereafter, the Governor may include at least ~~[\$500,000]~~ ~~\$2,000,000~~ \$1,000,000 in the annual budget for the Program.

(b) Appropriations and expenditures made for the purpose of implementing the Program, including the use of any funds received by a person under any component of the Program, are subject to audit by the Office of Legislative Audits as provided in § 2–1220 of the State Government Article.

~~(C) THE SECRETARY SHALL USE THE FEES TRANSFERRED TO THE PROGRAM UNDER § 4-411(C)(4) OF THE ENVIRONMENT ARTICLE EXCLUSIVELY FOR THE PROGRAM.~~

~~(D)~~ **THE SECRETARY MAY USE UP TO 20% OF PROGRAM FUNDS TO SUPPORT ACADEMIC MEDICAL RESEARCH CENTERS, INCLUDING THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH COMPUTING, IN THE COLLECTION, ANALYSIS, AND PROCESSING OF PROGRAM OUTCOME DATA FOR THE PURPOSES OF ASSESSING, MAXIMIZING, AND IMPROVING THE EFFECTIVENESS AND CLINICAL UTILITY OF THE CANCER SCREENING FUNDED BY THE PROGRAM.**

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2025. It shall remain effective for a period of 5 years and, at the end of June 30, 2030, this Act, with no further action required by the General Assembly, shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.

Approved by the Governor, May 20, 2025.