

HOUSE BILL 417

J1
HB 1109/25 – HGO

6lr2611
CF SB 435

By: ~~Delegates Pippy and Kerr, Kerr, Alston, Bagnall, Cullison, Guzzone, Hill, Hutchinson, S. Johnson, Kaufman, Kipke, Lopez, Martinez, M. Morgan, Reilly, Rosenberg, Ross, Szeliga, Taveras, White Holland, and Woorman~~

Introduced and read first time: January 22, 2026
Assigned to: Health

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments
House action: Adopted
Read second time: February 22, 2026

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 ~~Public Health Criminal Law – Schedule III Controlled Dangerous Substances –~~
3 ~~Medetomidine and Xylazine Consumer Protection Act~~

4 FOR the purpose of ~~prohibiting a retailer from distributing, selling, or exposing for sale a~~
5 ~~medetomidine product or a xylazine product unless the purchaser provides to the~~
6 ~~retailer certain proof; prohibiting a retailer from distributing, selling, or exposing for~~
7 ~~sale a medetomidine product or a xylazine product to an individual under a certain~~
8 ~~age; requiring a retailer that prepares, distributes, sells, or exposes for sale a~~
9 ~~medetomidine product or a xylazine product to maintain certain records; requiring~~
10 ~~the Maryland Department of Health to remit all civil penalties collected for a~~
11 ~~violation of certain provisions of this Act to the Comptroller to be deposited in the~~
12 ~~Maryland Substance Abuse Fund~~ establishing medetomidine and xylazine as
13 Schedule III controlled dangerous substances under the Maryland Controlled
14 Dangerous Substances Act; and generally relating to medetomidine and xylazine
15 products.

16 ~~BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,~~
17 ~~Article – Health – General~~
18 ~~Section 8 – GA – 01(a)~~
19 ~~Annotated Code of Maryland~~
20 ~~(2023 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)~~

21 ~~BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,~~

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 ~~Article – Health – General~~
 2 ~~Section 8 – 6A – 01(b)(3)~~
 3 ~~Annotated Code of Maryland~~
 4 ~~(2023 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)~~

5 ~~BY adding to~~
 6 ~~Article – Health – General~~
 7 ~~Section 21 – 2G – 01 through 21 – 2G – 03 to be under the new subtitle “Subtitle 2G –~~
 8 ~~Medetomidine and Xylazine Consumer Protection Act”~~
 9 ~~Annotated Code of Maryland~~
 10 ~~(2023 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)~~

11 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
 12 Article – Criminal Law
 13 Section 5–404
 14 Annotated Code of Maryland
 15 (2021 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

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

18 ~~Article – Health – General~~

19 ~~§ 6A-01.~~

20 ~~(a) In this section, “Fund” means the Maryland Substance Abuse Fund.~~

21 ~~(b) (3) The Fund consists of [the]:~~

22 ~~(I) THE fee required under § 6-229 of the Criminal Procedure~~
 23 ~~Article[, money];~~

24 ~~(II) CIVIL PENALTIES COLLECTED AND REMITTED TO THE~~
 25 ~~COMPTROLLER UNDER § 21-2G-02(E) OF THIS ARTICLE;~~

26 ~~(III) MONEY appropriated in the State budget to the Fund[, all];~~

27 ~~(IV) ALL earnings from investment of money in the Fund[,]; and~~
 28 ~~[other]~~

29 ~~(V) ANY OTHER money accepted for the benefit of the Fund from a~~
 30 ~~governmental or private source.~~

31 ~~SUBTITLE 2G. MEDETOMIDINE AND XYLAZINE CONSUMER PROTECTION ACT.~~

32 ~~21-2G-01.~~

1 ~~(A) IN THIS SUBTITLE THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS~~
2 ~~INDICATED.~~

3 ~~(B) "MEDETOMIDINE PRODUCT" MEANS A PRODUCT CONTAINING ANY~~
4 ~~AMOUNT OF MEDETOMIDINE.~~

5 ~~(C) (1) "RETAILER" MEANS A PERSON THAT:~~

6 ~~(I) SELLS, PREPARES, OR MAINTAINS MEDETOMIDINE~~
7 ~~PRODUCTS OR XYLAZINE PRODUCTS; OR~~

8 ~~(II) ADVERTISES, REPRESENTS, OR HOLDS ITSELF OUT AS~~
9 ~~SELLING, PREPARING, OR MAINTAINING MEDETOMIDINE PRODUCTS AND XYLAZINE~~
10 ~~PRODUCTS.~~

11 ~~(2) "RETAILER" INCLUDES A MANUFACTURER, A WHOLESALER, A~~
12 ~~CORPORATION, A PARTNERSHIP, A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY, A FIRM, AN~~
13 ~~ONLINE PLATFORM, OR ANY OTHER BUSINESS ENTITY DOING BUSINESS WITHIN THE~~
14 ~~STATE.~~

15 ~~(D) "XYLAZINE PRODUCT" MEANS A PRODUCT CONTAINING ANY AMOUNT OF~~
16 ~~XYLAZINE.~~

17 ~~21-2C-02.~~

18 ~~(A) A RETAILER MAY NOT DISTRIBUTE OR SELL A MEDETOMIDINE PRODUCT~~
19 ~~OR XYLAZINE PRODUCT UNLESS THE PURCHASER PROVIDES TO THE RETAILER~~
20 ~~PROOF OF THE PURCHASER'S INTENT TO USE THE MEDETOMIDINE PRODUCT OR~~
21 ~~XYLAZINE PRODUCT FOR AN INSTITUTIONAL, VETERINARY, OR SCIENTIFIC~~
22 ~~PURPOSE.~~

23 ~~(B) A RETAILER MAY NOT DISTRIBUTE, SELL, OR EXPOSE FOR SALE A~~
24 ~~MEDETOMIDINE PRODUCT OR A XYLAZINE PRODUCT TO AN INDIVIDUAL UNDER THE~~
25 ~~AGE OF 21 YEARS.~~

26 ~~(C) A RETAILER THAT PREPARES, DISTRIBUTES, SELLS, OR EXPOSES FOR~~
27 ~~SALE A MEDETOMIDINE PRODUCT OR A XYLAZINE PRODUCT SHALL MAINTAIN~~
28 ~~RECORDS OF ALL SALES, INCLUDING A COPY OF:~~

29 ~~(1) THE IDENTIFICATION USED AS PROOF OF THE PURCHASER'S AGE;~~
30 ~~AND~~

~~(2) EACH DOCUMENT OR OTHER MATERIAL USED AS PROOF OF THE PURCHASER'S INTENDED USE.~~

~~(D) A RETAILER THAT VIOLATES THIS SECTION IS SUBJECT TO A CIVIL PENALTY NOT EXCEEDING:~~

~~(1) \$3,000 FOR A FIRST VIOLATION; OR~~

~~(2) \$6,500 FOR EACH SUBSEQUENT VIOLATION.~~

~~(E) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL REMIT ALL CIVIL PENALTIES COLLECTED UNDER SUBSECTION (D) OF THIS SECTION TO THE COMPTROLLER TO BE DEPOSITED IN THE MARYLAND SUBSTANCE ABUSE FUND.~~

~~21-2C-03.~~

~~THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ADOPT REGULATIONS TO CARRY OUT THIS SUBTITLE.~~

Article - Criminal Law

5-404.

(a) Schedule III consists of:

(1) MEDETOMIDINE;

(2) XYLAZINE; AND

(3) each controlled dangerous substance by whatever official name, common or usual name, chemical name, or brand name:

[(1)] (I) added to Schedule III by the Department under § 5-202(b) of this title; or

[(2)] (II) designated as a Schedule III controlled dangerous substance by the federal government unless the Department objects under § 5-202(f) of this title.

(b) The Department may not add a substance to Schedule III under § 5-202 of this title unless the Department finds:

(1) a potential for abuse of the substance that is less than that for the substances listed in Schedule I and Schedule II;

1 (2) well documented and approved medical use of the substance in the
2 United States; and

3 (3) evidence that abuse of the substance may lead to moderate or low
4 physical dependence or high psychological dependence.

5 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
6 October 1, 2026.

Approved:

Governor.

Speaker of the House of Delegates.

President of the Senate.