

# HOUSE BILL 672

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EMERGENCY BILL

6lr2473

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By: Delegates Shetty and Rosenberg, Rosenberg, Alston, Bagnall, Cullison, Guzzone, Hill, Hutchinson, S. Johnson, Kaufman, Kipke, Lopez, Martinez, Reilly, Ross, Taveras, White Holland, and Woorman

Introduced and read first time: February 2, 2026

Assigned to: Health

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Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

House action: Adopted

Read second time: February 18, 2026

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

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Public Health – Maryland Pediatric Cancer Fund – Entities Eligible for Grants**

3 FOR the purpose of altering which entities are eligible to receive grants from the Maryland  
4 Pediatric Cancer Fund; and generally relating to the Maryland Pediatric Cancer  
5 Fund.

6 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
7 Article – Health – General  
8 Section 20–120  
9 Annotated Code of Maryland  
10 (2023 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

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

13 **Article – Health – General**

14 20–120.

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

16 (2) “Fund” means the Maryland Pediatric Cancer Fund established under  
17 this section.

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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.



1           (3)    “Pediatric cancer research” includes research to develop and advance  
2 the understanding of pediatric cancer and the techniques and modalities effective in the  
3 prevention, cure, screening, and treatment of pediatric cancer.

4           (b)   (1)    There is a Maryland Pediatric Cancer Fund.

5                   (2)    The Fund consists of:

6                           (i)    Money appropriated in the State budget to the Fund; and

7                           (ii)   Any donations or other money from any other source accepted for  
8 the benefit of the Fund.

9           (3)    The Secretary shall administer the Fund.

10           (4)   The Fund shall be used only for pediatric cancer research and  
11 administrative expenses as provided in subsection (c) of this section.

12           (5)   The Fund shall be maintained for the purposes stated in this section  
13 and unspent portions of the Fund shall remain in the Fund and may not revert to the  
14 General Fund of the State.

15           (6)   Money expended from the Fund for pediatric cancer research is  
16 supplemental and is not intended to take the place of funding that would otherwise be  
17 appropriated to the Department for pediatric cancer research.

18           (7)   All expenditures from the Fund shall be made only in accordance with  
19 an appropriation approved by the General Assembly in the annual State budget or through  
20 an approved budget amendment under §§ 7–209 and 7–210 of the State Finance and  
21 Procurement Article.

22           (8)   (i)    For fiscal year 2023, the Governor shall include in the annual  
23 budget bill an appropriation of \$5,000,000 to the Fund.

24                   (ii)   If \$5,000,000 is not included in the annual budget bill for fiscal  
25 year 2023, then the Governor shall include in the annual budget bill for fiscal year 2024 an  
26 appropriation of \$5,000,000 to the Fund.

27           (c)   (1)   (i)    Each year, the Secretary may:

28                           1.    Distribute funds from the Fund to a promotional account  
29 to be allocated to a State–based childhood cancer organization to be used to promote further  
30 donations to the Fund and to educate the State scientific community about the  
31 opportunities for childhood cancer research through the Fund; and

1                                   2.     Use funds from the Fund to administer the Fund,  
2 including for staff and administrative costs associated with the Commission established  
3 under § 20–121 of this title.

4                                   (ii)    The amounts distributed and used under subparagraph (i) of this  
5 paragraph may not exceed a total of 5% of the Fund.

6                                   (2)    (i)    After making the distribution allowed under paragraph (1) of  
7 this subsection, the Secretary shall use the remainder of the Fund only to provide grants  
8 to [eligible physicians,] **NONPROFIT** hospitals, [laboratories,] educational institutions,  
9 and other **NONPROFIT** organizations [and persons] to conduct pediatric cancer research.

10                                  (ii)    Money received from the grant program under this section may  
11 not be used to pay for institutional overhead expenses, organizational expenses, or charges  
12 that are not directly related to pediatric cancer research or expenses arising from  
13 community–based support services.

14                                  (d)    (1)    On or before August 31 each year, the Secretary shall submit a report  
15 to the General Assembly, in accordance with § 2–1257 of the State Government Article, on  
16 the administration of the Fund.

17                                  (2)    The report required under this subsection shall include:

18                                  (i)    A description of promotional efforts undertaken with money from  
19 the Fund; and

20                                  (ii)   A detailed accounting of the use of the Fund.

21                                  (e)    The Secretary shall adopt regulations to implement a pediatric cancer grant  
22 program under this section.

23                                  ~~SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect~~  
24 ~~October 1, 2026.~~

25                                  SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act is an emergency  
26 measure, is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public health or safety, has  
27 been passed by a ye and nay vote supported by three–fifths of all the members elected to  
28 each of the two Houses of the General Assembly, and shall take effect from the date it is  
29 enacted.