

HOUSE BILL 1602

L1, J1

6lr3659
CF SB 579

By: **Delegate Griffith**

Introduced and read first time: February 16, 2026

Assigned to: Rules and Executive Nominations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Counties – No–Cost Preventive Cancer Screenings for Volunteer Firefighters**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring counties in which a volunteer fire company is located to offer
4 no–cost preventive cancer screenings in accordance with certain guidelines to
5 volunteer firefighters volunteering with the volunteer fire company; authorizing a
6 county to satisfy the requirement by providing a certain annual examination or
7 applying for a certain grant; requiring the volunteer fire companies to maintain a
8 certain list of volunteer firefighters and provide the list, annually and on request, to
9 the county in which the volunteer fire company is located; requiring the counties to
10 maintain the list provided; and generally relating to the provision of no–cost
11 preventive cancer screenings for volunteer firefighters by counties.

12 BY adding to
13 Article – Local Government
14 Section 9–115
15 Annotated Code of Maryland
16 (2013 Volume and 2025 Supplement)

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

19 **Article – Local Government**

20 **9–115.**

21 **(A) (1) IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS**
22 **INDICATED.**

23 **(2) “VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY” INCLUDES A VOLUNTEER FIRE**
24 **DEPARTMENT.**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 **(3) “VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER” MEANS AN INDIVIDUAL WHO IS A**
2 **FIREFIGHTER VOLUNTEERING WITH A VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY IN A COUNTY.**

3 **(B) (1) EACH COUNTY IN WHICH A VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY IS**
4 **LOCATED SHALL OFFER NO-COST PREVENTIVE CANCER SCREENINGS IN**
5 **ACCORDANCE WITH THE LATEST SCREENING GUIDELINES ISSUED BY THE**
6 **INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FIRE FIGHTERS TO EACH VOLUNTEER**
7 **FIREFIGHTER WHO VOLUNTEERS WITH THE VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY.**

8 **(2) EACH VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY SHALL:**

9 **(I) MAINTAIN AN UP-TO-DATE LIST OF VOLUNTEER**
10 **FIREFIGHTERS WHO ARE VOLUNTEERING WITH THE VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY;**
11 **AND**

12 **(II) PROVIDE THE LIST TO THE COUNTY IN WHICH THE**
13 **VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY IS LOCATED:**

14 **1. ON OR BEFORE OCTOBER 1 EACH YEAR; AND**

15 **2. ON REQUEST OF THE COUNTY.**

16 **(3) EACH COUNTY IN WHICH A VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY IS**
17 **LOCATED SHALL MAINTAIN A LIST OF ALL VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS WHO**
18 **VOLUNTEER IN THE COUNTY AS PROVIDED BY EACH VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY**
19 **LOCATED IN THE COUNTY UNDER PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION.**

20 **(C) A COUNTY MAY SATISFY THE REQUIREMENT IN SUBSECTION (B)(1) OF**
21 **THIS SECTION BY:**

22 **(1) PROVIDING A NO-COST ANNUAL EXAMINATION TO VOLUNTEER**
23 **FIREFIGHTERS THAT INCLUDES PREVENTIVE CANCER SCREENINGS FOR**
24 **FIREFIGHTERS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE LATEST SCREENING GUIDELINES ISSUED**
25 **BY THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FIRE FIGHTERS; OR**

26 **(2) APPLYING FOR A GRANT UNDER TITLE 13, SUBTITLE 40 OF THE**
27 **HEALTH – GENERAL ARTICLE TO PAY FOR INNOVATIVE CANCER SCREENING**
28 **TECHNOLOGIES, INCLUDING A MULTICANCER EARLY DETECTION BLOOD TEST.**

29 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
30 1, 2026.