

SENATE BILL 579

L1, J1

6lr2596

By: **Senators Jennings, Gallion, Corderman, Carozza, Bailey, and Salling**

Introduced and read first time: February 4, 2026

Assigned to: Finance

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.



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.

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:

1. ON OR BEFORE OCTOBER 1 EACH YEAR; AND

2. ON REQUEST OF THE COUNTY.

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

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