

SENATE BILL 892

J2, J1, J5

6lr2668
CF HB 1121

By: **Senators Gile, Beidle, Hester, King, Love, and Hettleman**

Introduced and read first time: February 6, 2026

Assigned to: Finance

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Public Health – Perimenopausal, Menopausal, and Postmenopausal Conditions**

3 FOR the purpose of altering the membership of the State Advisory Council on Health and
4 Wellness; requiring certain health occupations boards that require a licensee or
5 certificate holder to complete continuing education requirements as a condition of
6 renewal to grant at least a certain amount of continuing education credits for
7 completing continuing education on perimenopausal, menopausal, and
8 postmenopausal evaluation and treatment; requiring the Maryland Health Care
9 Commission, the Maryland Commission for Women, and the Maryland Department
10 of Health to take certain actions related to perimenopausal, menopausal, and
11 postmenopausal conditions; and generally relating to perimenopausal, menopausal,
12 and postmenopausal conditions.

13 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
14 Article – Health – General
15 Section 13–201
16 Annotated Code of Maryland
17 (2023 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

18 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
19 Article – Health – General
20 Section 13–203
21 Annotated Code of Maryland
22 (2023 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

23 BY adding to
24 Article – Health Occupations
25 Section 1–231
26 Annotated Code of Maryland
27 (2021 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



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

Article – Health – General

13–201.

In this subtitle, “Advisory Council” means the State Advisory Council on Health and Wellness.

13–203.

(a) The Advisory Council consists of [34] voting members appointed by the Secretary.

(b) The following members shall serve without term limits:

(1) The Secretary [of Health], or the Secretary’s designee;

(2) The State Superintendent of Schools, or the State Superintendent’s designee;

(3) The Secretary of Aging, or the Secretary’s designee;

(4) The Secretary of Disabilities, or the Secretary’s designee;

(5) A representative of the Maryland Office of Minority Health and Health Disparities; [and]

(6) A representative of the Maryland Association of County Health Officers; AND

(7) THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE MARYLAND COMMISSION FOR WOMEN, OR THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S DESIGNEE.

(c) The following members are subject to term limits:

(1) One representative of the American Heart Association Mid–Atlantic, Inc., nominated by the Executive Director of the Association;

(2) One representative of the Arthritis Foundation, Mid–Atlantic Region, Maryland, nominated by the Executive Director of the Foundation;

(3) One representative of the American Diabetes Association, Maryland Chapter, nominated by the Executive Director of the Association;

(4) One representative of Johns Hopkins Medicine, nominated by the Chief Executive Officer of Johns Hopkins Medicine;

(5) One representative of MedChi, the Maryland State Medical Society, nominated by the Executive Director of MedChi;

(6) One representative of the University of Maryland Medical Center and University of Maryland School of Medicine, nominated by the Chief Executive Officer of the Medical Center and the Dean of the School of Medicine;

(7) One representative of the Maryland Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics, nominated by the Executive Director of the Chapter;

(8) One representative of the Maryland Nurses Association, nominated by the Executive Director of the Association;

(9) One representative of the Maryland Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics, nominated by the President of the Academy;

(10) One representative of the Maryland Chapter of the American College of Emergency Physicians, nominated by the President of the Chapter; [and]

(11) **ONE REPRESENTATIVE WITH EXPERTISE IN PERIMENOPAUSAL, MENOPAUSAL, AND POSTMENOPAUSAL EVALUATION AND TREATMENT; AND**

(12) [Eighteen] SEVENTEEN members of the public, who may include:

(i) Individuals with a chronic disease or family members of an individual with a chronic disease;

(ii) Licensed health care providers;

(iii) Individuals with a physical fitness background;

(iv) Employers or representatives of the business sector;

(v) Representatives of health insurers;

(vi) Representatives of community-based organizations; and

(vii) Individuals with expressed interest in health and wellness.

(d) (1) This subsection applies to members who are subject to term limits.

(2) The term of a member is 4 years.

(3) The terms of members are staggered as required by the terms provided for members of the Advisory Council on October 1, 2017.

(4) A member may serve two consecutive full terms.

(5) At the end of a term, a member continues to serve until a successor is appointed and qualifies.

(6) A member who is appointed after a term has begun serves only for the rest of the term and until a successor is appointed and qualifies.

(7) A member who serves two consecutive full 4-year terms may not be reappointed for 4 years after the completion of those terms.

(e) If a vacancy occurs, the Secretary promptly shall appoint a successor.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article – Health Occupations

1–231.

(A) THIS SUBTITLE DOES NOT APPLY TO A LICENSE OR CERTIFICATE ISSUED BY A HEALTH OCCUPATIONS BOARD UNDER TITLE 7, 9, 20, OR 21 OF THIS ARTICLE.

(B) (1) SUBJECT TO PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION, EACH HEALTH OCCUPATIONS BOARD THAT REQUIRES A LICENSEE OR CERTIFICATE HOLDER TO COMPLETE CONTINUING EDUCATION AS A CONDITION OF THE RENEWAL OF THE LICENSE OR CERTIFICATE SHALL GRANT AT LEAST 2 HOURS OF CONTINUING EDUCATION CREDITS FOR EVERY HOUR OF CONTINUING EDUCATION ON PERIMENOPAUSAL, MENOPAUSAL, AND POSTMENOPAUSAL EVALUATION AND TREATMENT THAT THE LICENSEE OR CERTIFICATE HOLDER COMPLETES.

(2) A HEALTH OCCUPATIONS BOARD MAY ESTABLISH A MAXIMUM NUMBER OF CONTINUING EDUCATION CREDITS THAT MAY BE GRANTED UNDER PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION.

SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Maryland Health Care Commission shall:

(1) in consultation with the Maryland Department of Health, the Maryland Insurance Administration, and the Maryland Commission for Women, evaluate coverage and barriers to coverage of the evaluation and treatment of perimenopausal, menopausal, and postmenopausal conditions, including coverage of hormone replacement therapy and preauthorization and step-therapy requirements; and

1 (2) on or before December 1, 2026, shall report its findings and
2 recommendations to the Senate Finance Committee and the House Health Committee, in
3 accordance with § 2–1257 of the State Government Article.

4 SECTION 4. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Maryland Commission for
5 Women shall:

6 (1) evaluate opportunities for State policy initiatives that improve the
7 health and economic security of individuals in the State with perimenopausal, menopausal,
8 and postmenopausal conditions; and

9 (2) on or before October 1, 2027, report its findings and recommendations
10 to the General Assembly, in accordance with § 2–1257 of the State Government Article.

11 SECTION 5. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Maryland Department of
12 Health shall:

13 (1) in consultation with the State Community Health Worker Advisory
14 Committee, evaluate and develop an action plan to increase access to perimenopausal,
15 menopausal, and postmenopausal health care services through the outreach of community
16 health workers to consumers; and

17 (2) on or before October 1, 2027, submit its evaluation and recommended
18 action plan to the General Assembly, in accordance with § 2–1257 of the State Government
19 Article.

20 SECTION 6. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Maryland Department
21 of Health shall:

22 (1) in consultation with health care provider professional associations and
23 institutions of higher education, including community colleges, evaluate methods for
24 increasing opportunities for clinical education, including postgraduate education, on
25 perimenopausal, menopausal, and postmenopausal evaluation and treatment; and

26 (2) on or before October 1, 2027, report its findings and recommendations
27 to the General Assembly, in accordance with § 2–1257 of the State Government Article.

28 SECTION 7. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That Section 2 of this Act shall take
29 effect October 1, 2026.

30 SECTION 8. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, except as provided in Section
31 7 of this Act, this Act shall take effect July 1, 2026.