

SB 570_Emergency Services_Exposure to Contagious D

Uploaded by: Delbridge, Theodore

Position: FAV



SB 570 – Emergency Services – Exposure to Contagious Diseases and Viruses – Notification and Other Requirements

State of Maryland

**Maryland
Institute for
Emergency Medical
Services Systems**

653 West Pratt Street
Baltimore, Maryland
21201-1536

*Larry Hogan
Governor*

*Clay B. Stamp, NRP
Chairman
Emergency Medical
Services Board*

*Theodore R. Delbridge, MD, MPH
Executive Director*

*410-706-5074
FAX 410-706-4768*

MIEMSS Position: Support

Bill Summary: SB 570 (1) amends three Health General statutes to add the 2019 Novel Coronavirus (2019-CoV) to the list of contagious diseases or viruses, the exposure to which must be communicated by a medical care facility that diagnoses the disease, to emergency medical services personnel, firefighters, law enforcement personnel, correctional officers and other persons; and (2) permits medical care facilities that must make the required notification to enter into an agreement with the State-designated Health Information Exchange to facilitate the required notification.

Rationale:

- SB 570 will make permanent certain notification requirements set forth in the “Directive and Order Regarding Notification of Certain Persons about Exposure to 2019 Novel Coronavirus,” issued March 16, 2020, by the Secretary of the Maryland Department of Health.
- The 2019 Novel Coronavirus (2019-CoV) is highly contagious and known to spread predominantly by close contact with an infected person and through respiratory droplets.
- By the nature of their work, public safety personnel are at increased risk for exposure when they treat or transport individuals with suspected or confirmed 2019-CoV or individuals who may be asymptomatic carriers.
- Rapid notification to public safety personnel of exposure to an individual diagnosed with 2019-CoV permits public safety services to determine the degree of risk and what steps must be taken to mitigate risk, prevent further spread and control the trajectory of the disease.
- Rapid notification can be significantly enhanced via the State-designated Health Information Exchange (HIE). Specific to EMS, the HIE links information from pre-hospital EMS care records (eMEDS®) to laboratory data confirming the patient’s positive 2019-CoV test.
 - EMS infection control officers are notified that EMS personnel have had an encounter with a positive patient and can take appropriate actions to determine if an exposure occurred during the encounter, to mitigate risk and to control the spread of the virus.
 - Using this rapid notification system, over 140,000 encounter notifications were sent to Maryland’s jurisdictional EMS infection control officers during the April – December 2020 period.

MIEMSS Strongly Supports SB 570 and asks for a Favorable Report

SB570_AFSCME3_FAV.pdf

Uploaded by: Gilmore , Denise

Position: FAV



190 West Ostend St., #201
Baltimore, MD 21230
Phone: 410.547.1515
Fax: 410.837.5436

Patrick Moran - President

Testimony
SB 570 – Emergency Services – Exposure to Contagious Diseases and Viruses—
Notification and Other Requirements
Support

AFSCME Council 3 represents Correctional Officers in the State Correctional Facilities. We support SB 570. This legislation adds the 2019—nCoV virus to the list of contagious diseases and viruses that trigger the notification requirement in the Health General Article 18-213. If a Correctional Officer comes into contact with an inmate who subsequently tests positive for the 2019—nCoV virus, SB 570 would require that the attending physician or medical examiner notify the Correctional Officer and Correctional Officer’s Institution of the potential exposure to the contagious virus within 48 hours or sooner.

Successfully preventing the outbreaks of contagious diseases and viruses requires properly notifying all individuals who are potentially exposed. Correctional Officers must accompany inmates to the hospital when they need emergency medical care. Our Correctional Officers deserve to know if they’ve been potentially exposed to an individual diagnosed with a contagious disease or virus. This timely notification allows for appropriate medical care to be administered to the Officer and helps to prevent the potential infections of their colleagues, other inmates, and their family members. SB 570 is a good bill.

We urge the committee to provide a favorable report on SB 570. Thank you.

Every AFSCME Maryland State and University contract guarantees a right to union representation.
An employee has the right to a union representative if requested by the employee.
800.492.1996

Find us: afscmemd.org
Like us: facebook.com/AFSCMEMD
Follow/Tweet us: [@afscmemaryland](https://twitter.com/afscmemaryland)

Final_SB 570 - Emergency Services - Exposure to Co

Uploaded by: Whitaker, Jake

Position: FAV



LARRY HOGAN
GOVERNOR

STATE HOUSE
100 STATE CIRCLE
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401-1925
(410) 974-3901
(TOLL FREE) 1-800-811-8336

TTY USERS CALL VIA MD RELAY

SB 570 - Emergency Services - Exposure to Contagious Diseases and Viruses - Notification and Other Requirements

**Position: Support
Senate Finance Committee
February 17, 2021**

**Dr. Ted Delbridge, Executive Director, Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services Systems
Jake Whitaker, Deputy Legislative Officer, Governor's Office**

Chair Kelley, Vice Chair Feldman, and Members of the Committee:

Senate Bill 570 (SB 570) will help protect the health and safety of frontline workers, including firefighters, police, and emergency medical services personnel by requiring medical facilities to notify them upon possible exposure to 2019-nCoV. SB 570 adds 2019-nCoV to the list of contagious diseases or viruses in Health-General §18-213, the exposure to which a medical care facility must notify first responders. SB 570 also permits medical facilities to contract with the Chesapeake Regional Information System for Our Patients (CRISP) to facilitate this notification requirement quickly and efficiently.

First responders have been on the frontlines of Maryland's response efforts since the beginning of the pandemic and are at an increased risk for exposure to individuals or patients suspected or confirmed to have 2019-nCoV. Despite the implementation of comprehensive infection controls, including the use of personal protective equipment and enhanced work safety practices, a significant degree of risk still remains. By notifying first responders when they have been exposed to an individual or patient diagnosed with 2019-nCoV, employers or public safety services can take appropriate steps to determine the degree of risk to the frontline worker and what actions must be taken to prevent harm, mitigate further spread, and control the trajectory of the disease.

SB 570 is part of Governor Hogan's commitment to enhancing the safety and well-being of first responders, especially during Maryland's current pandemic response efforts. SB 570 codifies existing emergency orders requiring that first responders be notified when exposed to 2019-nCoV. Making this notification requirement permanent will help protect first responders even after the state of emergency has ended.

For these reasons, the Administration respectfully requests a favorable report on SB 570.