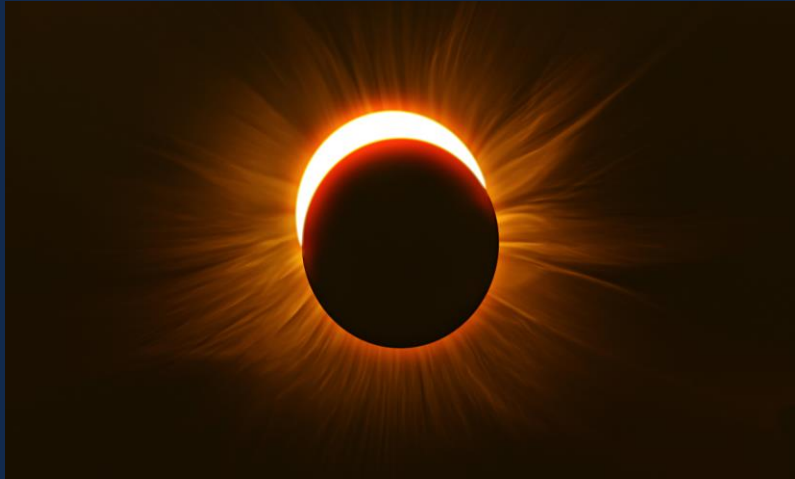


Legislative Wrap Up 2024 Session



MAY 16, 2024

End of Session Fun Facts



- ❑ Sine Die April 8th - The 446th Legislative Session Concluded
 - ❖ Ends with a Historic Solar Eclipse
- ❑ Bills introduced in the Senate - 1576
- ❑ Bills introduced in the House - 1904
- ❑ Bills Passed – 1,052
- ❑ Bills Enacted To Date - 702



2024 Legislative Highlights



MHCC 2025 Budget Appropriation

- ❑ \$36,850, 861 (Special Fund Appropriation)
- ❑ Includes \$13 million for the Trauma Fund
- ❑ Includes \$ 1.0 million General Funds for the Patient Safety Center

Budget Actions:

- ❑ Requires MHCC to submit two reports by December 15, 2024, and June 1, 2025, on private payer coverage of ambulatory surgical centers. (Primary)
- ❑ Requires MDH, MHCC, and HSCRC to submit a report by December 15, 2024, on the recruitment and retention of anesthesiologists in Maryland.
- ❑ Requires MDH, MHCC, and HSCRC to submit a report by December 15, 2024, on the reimbursement of maternal fetal medicine.
- ❑ Restricts funds from HSCRC until they submit a report by October 1, 2024, in consultation with MHCC on trauma center funding recommendations.

2024 MHCC Legislative Highlights



Trauma Funding:

- ❑ [SB0362](#) - Budget Reconciliation and Financing Act of 2024
- ❑ [HB1439](#) - Emergency Services – Funding
- ❑ [SB1092](#) - Emergency Services – Funding
 - ❑ MHCC and the HSCRC shall **adopt regulations** that specify the information that trauma physicians, trauma health care practitioners, and trauma centers must submit to receive money from the Fund
 - ❑ MHCC in consultation with the HSCRC and the MIEMSS shall **develop a process for the award of grants** to LEVEL I, Level II, and Level III trauma centers in the delivery of trauma care.
 - ❑ **Annual Report** - On or before November 1 of each year, the Commission and the Health Services Cost Review Commission shall report to the General Assembly

2024 MHCC Legislative Highlights



Nursing Homes

□ [SB1000/HB1122](#) - Maryland Health Care Commission - Nursing Homes - Acquisitions

Requiring a person, at least 60 days before the closing date of the acquisition of a nursing home, to submit a request for acquisition to the MHCC and provide certain notice to residents, resident representatives, and employees of the nursing home...

- The Commission shall **adopt regulations** by January 1, 2025.

Maternal Health

□ [SB1059/HB1051](#) - Maternal Health – Assessments, Referrals, and Reporting (Maryland Maternal Health Act of 2024)

This bill codifies the current requirement that a provider who receives reimbursement from Medicaid for obstetric services complete “prenatal risk assessment form” for a patient and submit the form to the local health department (LHD).

- The Secretary of Health, **in collaboration with the MHCC**, to develop a Maryland report card for birthing facility maternity care by July 1, 2025.

2024 MHCC Legislative Highlights



Mandate Studies

- ❑ [SB0614/HB0865](#) - Maryland Medical Assistance Program and Health Insurance - Coverage for Prostheses (So Every Body Can Move Act)

This bill expands the current mandated benefit for coverage of prosthetic devices to be coverage for prostheses and replacement for prostheses.

The MHCC and the MDH, in consultation with the MIA, shall review utilization of “L” codes and related codes within the All-Payer Claims Database.

- ❑ [HB1137](#) - Maryland Medical Assistance Program and Health Insurance - Required Coverage for Calcium Score Testing

Requiring the Medicaid, insurers, nonprofit health service plans, HMOs, and MCOs to provide coverage for calcium score testing for individuals who have at least three of the following risk factors: diabetes, high blood pressure, high cholesterol, or a family history of premature coronary artery disease

MHCC assess the social, medical, and financial impact of the proposed mandated health insurance benefits

2024 MHCC Legislative Highlights



Health Insurance

□ [SB0791/HB0932](#) - Health Insurance - Utilization Review - Revisions

This bill, (1) requires carriers, by July 1, 2026, to establish and maintain an online process for prior authorizations that meets specified parameters; ...

- MHCC and MIA, in consultation with health care practitioners and payors, to jointly conduct a study on the development of standards for the implementation of payor programs to modify prior authorization
- MHCC, in consultation with MIA, to monitor the progress toward implementing the bill's requirements regarding an online electronic process for prior authorization

2024 MHCC Legislative Highlights



Private Equity

- ❑ [HB1388 \(CH0378\)](#) - Labor and Employment - Noncompete and Conflict of Interest Clauses for Veterinary and Health Care Professionals and Study of the Health Care Market

Applying to veterinary and health care professionals' provisions of law stating that certain noncompete and conflict of interest provisions in certain employment contracts are null and void as being against the public policy of the State;

The Maryland Health Care Commission (MHCC) must contract with a private consultant to study, in consultation with relevant stakeholders, specified topics related to the health care market in the State. The bill takes effect June 1, 2024.

Study

- ❑ [SB0694/HB0887](#) - Maryland Department of Health - Health Commissions and Maryland Insurance Administration - Study

Requiring the MDH to contract with an independent consultant to conduct a certain study of the HSCRC, the MHCC, the MIA, and the MCHRC;

The Department to submit a report on the results of the study by January 1, 2026

2024 MHCC Legislative Highlights



Commission/Workgroups Membership

- ❑ [HB1143](#) - EMS - Maryland Emergency Department Wait Time Reduction Commission – Establishment

Establishes the Maryland Emergency Department Wait Time Reduction Commission to address factors throughout the health care system that contribute to increased emergency department (ED) wait times.

MHCC ED or designee member of Commission

- ❑ [SB0212\(CH0042\)](#) [HB1048 \(CH0041\)](#) - Behavioral Health Advisory Council and Commission on Behavioral Health Care Treatment and Access – Alterations

The bill also alters the membership and terms of the council, alters the membership of the commission, and requires the commission to make specified recommendations regarding the integration of somatic and behavioral health services in Medicaid.

MHCC ED or designee member of Commission

The Beginning

