



2023 Legislative Initiatives Status Update



JULY 20, 2023

Trauma Funding



- ❑ Requires MHCC to submit a report on the criteria for allocating \$9,500,000 in trauma facility funding 45 days prior to the transfer of funds from the DPA to MHCC for allocation to trauma centers.
- ❑ [SB0493/](#)[HB0675](#) - Commission to Study Trauma Center Funding in Maryland - *MIEMSS and MHCC shall jointly chair and staff commission. Study the adequacy of trauma center funding. On or before December 1, 2023, the Commission shall report its findings and recommendations to the Governor and General Assembly.*



Behavioral Health

- ❑ **SB0283/HB0418 - Mental Health - Workforce Development - Fund Established** - *Requires MHCC to conduct a comprehensive behavioral health workforce needs assessment in coordination with the BHA, the Maryland Higher Education Commission, the Maryland Department of Labor, the Career and Technical Education Committee, and other interested stakeholders. Needs Assessment due on or before October 15, 2024.*

- ❑ **HB1148/SB0582 - Behavioral Health Care - Treatment and Access (Behavioral Health Model for Maryland)** - *Requires the MHCC to study and make recommendations regarding the delivery of health care services through telehealth, including payment parity for the delivery of health care services through audiovisual and audio-only telehealth technologies on or before December 1, 2024.*

- ❑ **SB0154 (CH0297) - Public Health - Mental Health Advance Directives - Awareness and Statewide Database**
Requiring the Behavioral Health Administration and the Maryland Health Care Commission jointly to study how first responders and behavioral health crisis providers can access a certain advanced directive database when responding to a behavioral health crisis and to report to certain committees of the General Assembly on their findings on or before December 1, 2023



Protected Health Information

- [SB0786/HB0812](#) - Health - Reproductive Health Services - Protected Information and Insurance Requirements - *MHCC must (1) adopt emergency regulations within nine months of the bill's effective date to restrict data of patients related to legally protected health care and (2) submit quarterly reports on the bill's implementation in fiscal 2024 and 2025. Regulations must be developed by December 2023.*



Dental Health Services

- [HB1146](#) - MDH and MHCC - Dental Services - Survey and Regional Needs Assessment - *By December 1, 2023, MDH and MHCC, jointly and in consultation with MHA, must submit a report to specified committees of the General Assembly that includes the results of the survey and the regional needs assessment, as well as the regional plans.*



Mandate Studies

- ❑ [SB0075](#) - Insurance and Maryland Medical Assistance Program – Treatment of Alopecia Areata – Coverage Requirements (**Bill Failed**) - *Study report due December 2023.*
- ❑ [SB0108](#) - HI – Annual Behavioral Health Wellness Visits – Coverage and Reimbursement (**Bill Failed**) - *Study report due December 2023.*
- ❑ [SB0184/HB0376](#) - HI - Diagnostic and Supplemental Exams and Biopsies for Breast Cancer - Cost-Sharing - *MHCC to study and report on the financial impact of eliminating cost-sharing for diagnostic image-guided biopsies for breast cancer. Report due on or before October 1, 2023.*

Mandate Studies



- ❑ [HB1217/SB0805](#) - **Maryland Medical Assistance Program and Health Insurance - Required Coverage for Biomarker Testing** - *Report on the impact of providing biomarker testing by December 1, 2025.*

- ❑ [HB0937](#) **(Chapter 56) -Abortion Access Act (Bill Passed 2022 Session)** *(Request made Jan 2023)*
Requiring the MHCC to assess the social, medical, and financial impact of requiring coverage for labor and delivery services. *Report on findings and any recommendations to the committee on or before December 31, 2023.*

- ❑ **Four Year Mandate Study**
(Required Under Section 15-1502 of the Insurance Article)
Report re-evaluates the costs of existing mandated health insurance services in Maryland and its surrounding states.
Every 4 years the Commission shall submit a report of its findings to the General Assembly, subject to § 2–1257 of the State Government Article. Due January 1, 2024



Nursing Homes

- **SB0509/HB0702 - HCF - Nursing Homes - Acquisitions and Licensure - MHCC** *in consultation with certain stakeholders, to study and make recommendations regarding the expansion of the certificate of need program over acquisitions of nursing homes. Submit a report with recommendations from stakeholders to the General Assembly on or before December 1, 2023.*



Electronic Health Records and Information Exchange

- **SB0648 - EHNs and EMRs - Nursing Homes - Release of Records - Review** *legislation in relation to and make sure consistent with HB 1022 (passed in 2021) in regulation.*



Telehealth

- ❑ **SB0534 - Preserve Telehealth Access Act of 2023** - *MHCC must study and make recommendations regarding the delivery of health care services through telehealth, as specified, and report to the General Assembly by December 1, 2024.*
- ❑ **HB1148/SB0582 - Behavioral Health Care - Treatment and Access (Behavioral Health Model for Maryland)** - *Requires the MHCC to study and make recommendations regarding the delivery of health care services through telehealth, including payment parity for the delivery of health care services through audiovisual and audio-only telehealth technologies on or before December 1, 2024.*

The Beginning

