

HOUSE BILL 1263

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EMERGENCY BILL

1lr2282

By: **Delegate Rosenberg**

Introduced and read first time: February 8, 2021

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Maryland Department of Health – COVID–19 Vaccination Plan**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring the Maryland Department of Health, on or before a certain
4 date and with input from certain persons, to develop and submit to the General
5 Assembly a certain plan for vaccinating residents of the State against COVID–19;
6 requiring that the plan include certain information, a dedication of time and
7 resources for certain purposes, and a certain education campaign; requiring the
8 Department to provide to the General Assembly, for the duration of a certain
9 calendar year, certain weekly progress reports on implementation of the plan;
10 requiring the reports to be submitted to the General Assembly in a certain manner;
11 defining a certain term; making this Act an emergency measure; providing for the
12 termination of this Act; and generally relating to vaccination for COVID–19.

13 BY adding to

14 Article – Health – General

15 Section 18–9A–01 and 18–9A–02 to be under the new subtitle “Subtitle 9A.
16 COVID–19 Vaccination Plan”

17 Annotated Code of Maryland

18 (2019 Replacement Volume and 2020 Supplement)

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

21 **Article – Health – General**

22 **SUBTITLE 9A. COVID–19 VACCINATION PLAN.**

23 **18–9A–01.**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 IN THIS SUBTITLE, “COVID-19” MEANS, INTERCHANGEABLY AND
2 COLLECTIVELY, THE CORONAVIRUS KNOWN AS COVID-19 OR 2019-NCoV AND THE
3 SARS-CoV-2 VIRUS.

4 18-9A-02.

5 (A) (1) ON OR BEFORE APRIL 1, 2021, THE DEPARTMENT, WITH INPUT
6 FROM SUBJECT MATTER EXPERTS AND OTHER RELEVANT STAKEHOLDERS, SHALL
7 DEVELOP AND SUBMIT TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY A COMPREHENSIVE PLAN FOR
8 VACCINATING RESIDENTS OF THE STATE AGAINST COVID-19.

9 (2) THE PLAN REQUIRED UNDER PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS
10 SUBSECTION SHALL INCLUDE:

11 (I) DETAILED INFORMATION ON:

12 1. THE CATEGORIES OF RESIDENTS OF THE STATE WHO
13 WILL RECEIVE PRIORITY ACCESS TO VACCINES FOR COVID-19;

14 2. THE TIMELINE FOR PROVIDING VACCINES FOR
15 COVID-19 TO RESIDENTS IN EACH OF THE PRIORITY CATEGORIES AND TO
16 MEMBERS OF THE GENERAL PUBLIC WHO ARE NOT INCLUDED IN PRIORITY
17 CATEGORIES; AND

18 3. TARGET METRICS FOR VACCINATING RESIDENTS IN
19 EACH OF THE PRIORITY CATEGORIES AND FOR MEMBERS OF THE GENERAL PUBLIC
20 WHO ARE NOT INCLUDED IN PRIORITY CATEGORIES;

21 (II) A DEDICATION OF TIME AND RESOURCES TO ASSIST SENIOR
22 CITIZENS WHO ARE LIVING IN THEIR HOMES TO RECEIVE THE VACCINE IN A MANNER
23 THAT MINIMIZES WAIT LINES OR TRAVEL TIMES;

24 (III) A DEDICATION OF TIME AND RESOURCES TO TARGET
25 VACCINE DISTRIBUTION AND VACCINE SAFETY OUTREACH EFFORTS TO
26 COMMUNITIES THAT HAVE BEEN IMPACTED DISPROPORTIONATELY BY COVID-19
27 INFECTION, MORBIDITY, AND MORTALITY, INCLUDING THROUGH THE USE OF
28 VACCINATION CLINICS WITHIN COMMUNITY CENTERS AND OTHER
29 COMMUNITY-BASED INSTITUTIONS; AND

30 (IV) AN EDUCATION CAMPAIGN ON COVID-19 VACCINES THAT
31 INCLUDES INFORMATION ON:

32 1. HOW TO REGISTER FOR A VACCINE;

1 **2. WHERE VACCINES ARE ADMINISTERED;**

2 **3. HOW AN INDIVIDUAL WILL BE NOTIFIED WHEN THE**
3 **INDIVIDUAL IS ELIGIBLE FOR A VACCINE; AND**

4 **4. HOW AN INDIVIDUAL WITH NO INTERNET ACCESS CAN**
5 **REGISTER FOR A VACCINE.**

6 **(B) AFTER SUBMITTING THE COVID-19 VACCINE PLAN TO THE GENERAL**
7 **ASSEMBLY AS REQUIRED UNDER SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION, THE**
8 **DEPARTMENT SHALL PROVIDE WEEKLY PROGRESS REPORTS ON IMPLEMENTATION**
9 **OF THE COVID-19 VACCINE PLAN TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY FOR THE DURATION**
10 **OF CALENDAR YEAR 2021.**

11 **(C) THE COVID-19 VACCINE PLAN AND PROGRESS REPORTS REQUIRED**
12 **UNDER THIS SECTION SHALL BE SUBMITTED TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY IN**
13 **ACCORDANCE WITH § 2-1257 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE.**

14 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act is an emergency
15 measure, is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public health or safety, has
16 been passed by a yea and nay vote supported by three-fifths of all the members elected to
17 each of the two Houses of the General Assembly, and shall take effect from the date it is
18 enacted. It shall remain effective through December 31, 2022, and, at the end of December
19 31, 2022, this Act, with no further action required by the General Assembly, shall be
20 abrogated and of no further force and effect.