

HOUSE BILL 1403

J1

2lr3146
CF SB 636

By: **Delegates Pena–Melnyk, Lehman, Bagnall, Carey, Chang, Charles, Henson, Howell, R. Jones, Korman, Landis, McIntosh, Reznik, and Valentino–Smith**
Introduced and read first time: February 17, 2022
Assigned to: Rules and Executive Nominations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Maryland Department of Health – Waiver Programs – Waitlist Reduction**
3 **(End the Wait Act)**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring the Maryland Department of Health to develop a plan to
5 reduce the waitlist for certain waiver programs by a certain percentage beginning in
6 a certain fiscal year; and generally relating to waiver programs administered by the
7 Maryland Department of Health.

8 BY adding to

9 Article – Health – General

10 Section 15–150

11 Annotated Code of Maryland

12 (2019 Replacement Volume and 2021 Supplement)

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

15 **Article – Health – General**

16 **15–150.**

17 **(A) (1) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL DEVELOP A PLAN TO REDUCE THE**
18 **WAITLISTS FOR THE FOLLOWING WAIVER PROGRAMS BY 50%, BEGINNING IN FISCAL**
19 **YEAR 2024:**

20 **(I) THE COMMUNITY PATHWAYS WAIVER;**

21 **(II) THE COMMUNITY SUPPORTS WAIVER;**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.
[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



- 1 (III) THE FAMILY SUPPORTS WAIVER;
- 2 (IV) THE BRAIN INJURY WAIVER;
- 3 (V) THE HOME- AND COMMUNITY-BASED OPTIONS WAIVER;
- 4 (VI) THE MEDICAL DAY CARE SERVICES WAIVER;
- 5 (VII) THE MODEL WAIVER FOR MEDICALLY FRAGILE
6 CHILDREN; AND
- 7 (VIII) THE AUTISM WAIVER.

8 (2) THE PLAN REQUIRED UNDER THIS SUBSECTION SHALL INCLUDE:

9 (I) MEASURES TO RECRUIT AND RETAIN PROVIDERS FOR EACH
10 WAIVER PROGRAM;

11 (II) ANY CHANGES IN REIMBURSEMENT RATES FOR SERVICES
12 PROVIDED UNDER THE WAIVER PROGRAMS;

13 (III) THE EXPECTED TIME FRAME FOR REDUCING THE WAITLIST
14 FOR EACH WAIVER PROGRAM BY 50%; AND

15 (IV) THE PROJECTED COST OF THE MEASURES TO BE
16 IMPLEMENTED UNDER THE PLAN.

17 (3) PROVISIONS OF THE PLAN RELATING TO THE AUTISM WAIVER
18 SHALL BE DEVELOPED IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE MARYLAND STATE
19 DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION.

20 (B) ON OR BEFORE JANUARY 1, 2023, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL SUBMIT
21 THE PLAN TO THE GOVERNOR AND, IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 2-1257 OF THE STATE
22 GOVERNMENT ARTICLE, THE CHAIRS OF THE SENATE BUDGET AND TAXATION
23 COMMITTEE, THE SENATE EDUCATION, HEALTH, AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS
24 COMMITTEE, THE SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE, THE HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS
25 COMMITTEE, AND THE HOUSE HEALTH AND GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS
26 COMMITTEE.

27 (C) BEGINNING IN FISCAL YEAR 2024, THE GOVERNOR SHALL INCLUDE IN
28 THE ANNUAL BUDGET BILL SUFFICIENT FUNDS TO CARRY OUT THIS SECTION.

29 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
30 October 1, 2022.

