

# SENATE BILL 859

J1

2lr2941  
CF HB 1176

---

By: **Senator Watson**

Introduced and read first time: February 7, 2022

Assigned to: Finance

---

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

Senate action: Adopted

Read second time: March 7, 2022

---

## CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Public Health – Sickle Cell Disease Registry – Establishment**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring the Maryland Department of Health to establish and  
4 maintain a registry of individuals diagnosed with sickle cell disease for a certain  
5 purpose; requiring the Department to periodically publish information identifying  
6 areas with statistically high populations of individuals with sickle cell disease; and  
7 generally relating to a sickle cell disease registry.

8 BY adding to

9 Article – Health – General

10 Section 18–508

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 **18–508.**

17 **(A) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ESTABLISH AND MAINTAIN A REGISTRY OF**  
18 **INDIVIDUALS DIAGNOSED WITH SICKLE CELL DISEASE FOR USE AS A SINGLE**  
19 **REPOSITORY OF ACCURATE, COMPLETE RECORDS TO AID IN PROMOTING THE SITING**

---

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



1 OF THE FOLLOWING HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS IN AREAS WITH STATISTICALLY HIGH  
2 POPULATIONS OF INDIVIDUALS WITH SICKLE CELL DISEASE:

3 (1) HEALTH CARE FACILITIES THAT PROVIDE INFUSION THERAPY;  
4 AND

5 (2) HEMATOLOGIST OFFICES.

6 (B) THE SICKLE CELL DISEASE REGISTRY ESTABLISHED UNDER  
7 SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION SHALL INCLUDE:

8 (1) A RECORD OF INDIVIDUALS IN THE STATE WHO HAVE BEEN  
9 DIAGNOSED WITH SICKLE CELL DISEASE; AND

10 (2) ANY OTHER INFORMATION REGARDING INDIVIDUALS WHO HAVE  
11 BEEN DIAGNOSED WITH SICKLE CELL DISEASE THAT THE DEPARTMENT CONSIDERS  
12 NECESSARY AND APPROPRIATE FOR INCLUSION ON THE REGISTRY.

13 (C) (1) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ESTABLISH A PROCESS AND  
14 GUIDELINES FOR:

15 (I) OBTAINING INFORMATION REGARDING AN INDIVIDUAL  
16 DIAGNOSED WITH SICKLE CELL DISEASE FROM HEALTH CARE FACILITIES FOR USE  
17 IN THE REGISTRY; ~~AND~~

18 (II) ENSURING THAT THE REGISTRY AND THE PROCESS OF  
19 OBTAINING INFORMATION FOR THE REGISTRY COMPLY WITH THE REQUIREMENTS  
20 OF § 18-504 OF THIS SUBTITLE, § 13-109 OF THIS ARTICLE, THE HEALTH  
21 INSURANCE PORTABILITY AND ACCOUNTABILITY ACT OF 1996, AND ANY OTHER  
22 APPLICABLE PRIVACY LAW; AND

23 (III) INTEGRATING THE REGISTRY WITH THE  
24 STATE-DESIGNATED HEALTH INFORMATION EXCHANGE.

25 (2) THE DEPARTMENT MAY USE ANY AVAILABLE SOURCES OF DATA  
26 FOR THE REGISTRY OR AS PART OF THE PROCESS AND GUIDELINES ESTABLISHED  
27 UNDER PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION, INCLUDING:

28 (I) DATA FROM THE DESIGNATED HEALTH INFORMATION  
29 EXCHANGE IN THE STATE;

30 (II) CENSUS-TRACT LEVEL DATA; AND

31 (III) INFORMATION COLLECTED FROM VITAL RECORDS.

1           **(D) A HEALTH CARE PROVIDER WHO PROVIDES HEALTH CARE TO AN**  
2 **INDIVIDUAL WITH SICKLE CELL DISEASE SHALL PROVIDE TO THE DEPARTMENT ANY**  
3 **INFORMATION IN THE FORM AND MANNER REQUIRED BY THE GUIDELINES**  
4 **ESTABLISHED UNDER SUBSECTION (C) OF THIS SECTION.**

5           **(E) TO THE EXTENT AUTHORIZED BY LAW, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL**  
6 **PERIODICALLY PUBLISH INFORMATION IDENTIFYING AREAS WITH STATISTICALLY**  
7 **HIGH POPULATIONS OF INDIVIDUALS WITH SICKLE CELL DISEASE, WHICH MAY**  
8 **INCLUDE INFORMATION PUBLISHED IN A MAP.**

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

Approved:

---

Governor.

---

President of the Senate.

---

Speaker of the House of Delegates.