

Chapter 384

(Senate Bill 806)

AN ACT concerning

**Maryland Health Benefit Exchange and Maryland Department of Health
– Health Care and Dental Care Coverage for Undocumented Immigrants –
Report**

FOR the purpose of requiring the Maryland Health Benefit Exchange and the Maryland Department of Health to develop a report comparing options for offering affordable health care and dental care coverage to State residents who are ineligible for the Maryland Medical Assistance Program, the Maryland Children’s Health Program, ~~or~~ qualified health plans, or stand-alone dental plans due to the individuals’ immigration status; and generally relating to a study on providing health care and dental care coverage to undocumented immigrants.

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
That:

(a) The Maryland Health Benefit Exchange and the Maryland Department of Health shall develop a report comparing options for offering affordable health care and dental care coverage to State residents who are ineligible for the Maryland Medical Assistance Program, the Maryland Children’s Health Program, or qualified health plans or stand-alone dental plans through the Maryland Health Benefit Exchange due to the individuals’ immigration status.

(b) The report required under subsection (a) of this section shall include a comparison of the cost to the State, the impact on the uninsured, potential benefits designs, and implementation considerations for:

(1) offering health care and dental care coverage through:

(i) the Maryland Medical Assistance Program and the Maryland Children’s Health Program to individuals who are eligible technically and financially for the programs but for the individuals’ immigration status; and

(ii) qualified health plans and stand-alone dental plans offered through the Maryland Health Benefit Exchange to individuals who are eligible technically and financially to enroll in coverage through the Exchange but for the individuals’ immigration status; and

(2) offering health care and dental care coverage to the following groups:

(i) all eligible individuals;

- (ii) only individuals under the age of 21 years;
- (iii) only individuals who are at least 65 years old; and
- (iv) only low-income individuals.

(c) On or before October 31, 2023, the Maryland Health Benefit Exchange and the Maryland Department of Health shall report their findings and recommendations to the House Health and Government Operations Committee and the Senate Finance Committee in accordance with § 2-1257 of the State Government Article.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2023.

Approved by the Governor, May 3, 2023.