

SENATE BILL 169

J1

7lr1458

By: ~~Senators Middleton and Kasemeyer~~, Kasemeyer, Astle, Benson, Feldman, Hershey, Jennings, Klausmeier, Mathias, Reilly, and Rosapepe

Introduced and read first time: January 18, 2017

Assigned to: Finance

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

Senate action: Adopted

Read second time: February 7, 2017

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 ~~Maryland Medical Assistance Program~~ Health – Cost of Emergency Room Visits
3 to Treat Dental Conditions – Study

4 FOR the purpose of ~~requiring~~ authorizing the ~~Department of Health and Mental Hygiene~~
5 Maryland Dental Action Coalition to conduct a study to determine the annual cost
6 of emergency room visits to treat dental conditions of ~~adult enrollees in the Maryland~~
7 ~~Medical Assistance Program~~ certain adults; ~~requiring~~ authorizing the ~~Department~~
8 Coalition to conduct the study in a certain manner, report the findings of the study
9 to the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene and the General Assembly on or
10 before a certain date, and distribute the report to certain stakeholders or a certain
11 coalition of stakeholders; and generally relating to ~~the Maryland Medical Assistance~~
12 ~~Program and a study of the cost of~~ emergency room visits to treat dental conditions.

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

15 (a) The ~~Department of Health and Mental Hygiene shall~~ Maryland Dental Action
16 Coalition may conduct a study to determine the annual cost of emergency room visits to
17 treat dental conditions of ~~adult enrollees in the Maryland Medical Assistance Program;~~

18 (1) adult enrollees in the Maryland Medical Assistance Program;

19 (2) adults who have private health insurance coverage; and

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.



(3) adults who are uninsured.

(b) In conducting the study ~~required~~ authorized under subsection (a) of this section, the ~~Department shall~~ Coalition may:

(1) use emergency room utilization data from the Health Services Cost Review Commission to determine for ~~adult Medical Assistance enrollees~~ the categories of individuals specified in subsection (a) of this section:

(i) the annual cost of emergency room visits for dental health care treatment for all dental conditions by zip code and county; and

(ii) the annual cost of emergency room visits for dental health care treatment for chronic dental conditions by zip code and county;

(2) evaluate whether there may be underreporting of dental-related diagnoses in the emergency room utilization data from the Health Services Cost Review Commission; and

(3) identify methods to improve the reporting and analysis of the data relating to utilization of emergency rooms for treatment of dental conditions.

(c) (1) On or before December 1, 2017, the ~~Department shall~~ Coalition may report to the ~~General Assembly, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, Department of Health and Mental Hygiene and the General Assembly~~ the findings of the study conducted under subsection (a) of this section.

(2) The ~~Department shall~~ Coalition may distribute the report to any local stakeholders, or coalition of stakeholders, with an interest in using the emergency room data for their region of the State to improve access to dental services ~~for adult enrollees in the Maryland Medical Assistance Program.~~

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June 1, 2017.

Approved:

Governor.

President of the Senate.

Speaker of the House of Delegates.