

MARYLAND BOARD OF NURSING 2024 LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY

During the 2024 Maryland General Assembly session, legislators considered more than 2,700 bills and resolutions. The Maryland Board of Nursing (the Board) reviewed and prioritized bills each week, focusing on legislation that impacted the Board's mission, operations, licensees, or certificate holders. Below is a snapshot of passed bills that have the most impact.

For a list of the status of all bills, visit the Maryland General Assembly Website:
<https://mgaleg.maryland.gov/mgawebsite>.

ENACTED BILLS

House Bill (HB) 84 ([Chapter 922](#)) / Senate Bill (SB) 332 ([Chapter 923](#)) Hospitals and Urgent Care Centers - Sepsis Protocol (Lochlin's Law), effective October 1, 2024. This bill requires, on or before January 1, 2025, each hospital and urgent care center in the State to implement an evidence-based protocol for the early recognition and treatment of a patient with sepsis, severe sepsis, or septic shock that is based on generally acceptable standards of care; requires a specialty psychiatric hospital to establish a certain process; and requires hospitals and urgent care centers to require periodic training in the implementation of the protocol for certain staff.

House Bill (HB) 86 ([Chapter 280](#)) / Senate Bill (SB) 180 ([Chapter 279](#)) Public and Nonpublic Schools - Bronchodilators - Use, Availability, Training, and Policies, effective July 1, 2024. This bill requires the State Department of Education, in consultation with certain groups, to develop training for certain school personnel to identify symptoms of anaphylaxis, asthma, and respiratory distress in students; requires the Maryland Department of Health, in consultation with county boards, and authorizes nonpublic schools to establish a policy to obtain, administer, and train certain school personnel to administer emergency bronchodilators to a student who is determined to be, or is perceived to be, experiencing asthma-related symptoms; etc.

House Bill (HB) 119 ([Chapter 752](#)) Public Health - Giving Infants a Future Without Transmission (GIFT) Act, effective October 1, 2024. This bill alters certain HIV and syphilis reporting and testing requirements for hospitals and health care providers for pregnant women and newborns; provides that certain documents related to certain HIV and syphilis reports are not discoverable and are not admissible in evidence in any criminal or administrative action; and alters certain penalties related to the disclosure of

personal identifying health information acquired for the purpose of HIV and AIDS reporting under certain provisions of law.

House Bill (HB) 149 ([Chapter 779](#)) Medical Records - Destruction - Notice and Retrieval, effective October 1, 2024. This bill extends the time period from 5 to 7 years during which a health care provider is prohibited from destroying medical records and laboratory and X-ray reports; requires that the notice required to be provided regarding the destruction of medical records be made to the last known e-mail address of the patient or the parent or guardian of a minor; requires a health care provider to make a medical record available for retrieval by a patient or a parent or guardian of a minor within a certain time period and at a certain location; etc.

House Bill (HB) 177 ([Chapter 880](#)) Hospitals - Care of Infants After Discharge (Safe Sleep Act of 2024), effective October 1, 2024. This bill requires a hospital, as soon as practicable before discharging an infant after the birth of the infant, to provide oral and written resources to the parent or legal guardian; requires a hospital, before discharging an infant, to ask the parent or legal guardian to describe the sleep environment that will be provided at home; requires, by January 1, 2025, each hospital to establish a process for providing resources and information about safe sleep environments to parents and legal guardians of infants, etc.

House Bill (HB) 522 ([Chapter 195](#)) Public Schools - Student Telehealth Appointments - State Guidelines, Policies, and Access, effective July 1, 2024. This bill requires, by December 31, 2024, the State Department of Education and the Maryland Department of Health jointly to adopt certain State guidelines for school health services regarding student access to telehealth appointments during the school day on the premises of public middle and high schools in the State; and requires each county board of education to adopt and implement a certain student telehealth policy before the start of the 2025-2026 school year.

House Bill (HB) 545 ([Chapter 250](#)) / Senate Bill (SB) 441 ([Chapter 251](#)) Janet L. Hoffman Loan Assistance Repayment Program - Nancy Grasmick Public School Professional Award - Public School Nurses, effective July 1, 2024. This bill expands the Nancy Grasmick Public School Professional Award within the Janet L. Hoffman Loan Assistance Repayment Program to include public school nurses who are licensed as registered nurses, provide health services in public schools, and are employed by a county school system or a local health department to provide health services through an agreement with a county board.

House Bill (HB) 581 ([Chapter 412](#)) / Senate Bill (SB) 472 ([Chapter 413](#)) State Government - Permits, Licenses, and Certificates - Processing (Transparent Government Act of 2024), effective July 1, 2024. This bill requires each principal department and independent unit to create a catalog of information relating to permits, licenses, and certificates issued by the department or independent unit and submit the catalog to the Governor on or before October 1, 2024; requires each principal department and independent unit to post a completed update of information relating to permits, licenses, and certificates on the website of the department or independent unit on or before October 1, 2025; and establishes the Government Efficiency Commission.

House Bill (HB) 759 ([Chapter 869](#)) / Senate Bill (SB) 996 ([Chapter 870](#)) Advanced Practice Registered Nurses - Professional Liability Insurance Coverage - Notification Requirements, effective October 1, 2024. This bill requires advanced practice registered nurses practicing as an advanced practice registered nurse in the State to notify patients in writing if the nurse does not maintain professional liability insurance coverage or if the coverage has lapsed and not been renewed; requires that the notification be provided at certain visits and as part of certain informed consents, signed by a patient at certain times, and retained as part of the advanced practice registered nurse's patient records, etc.

House Bill (HB) 809 ([Chapter 469](#)) Members of Boards, Committees, Commissions, Task Forces, or Workgroups – Removal or Suspension, effective October 1, 2024. This bill provides that a member of a board, committee, commission, task force, or workgroup created by State law may be removed or suspended for misconduct, incompetence, neglect of duties, or other good cause by the individual or entity that appointed the member under certain circumstances; authorizes the removal or suspension of an appointed member only after consultation with the chair of the board, committee, commission, task force, or workgroup and the member has been given an opportunity to be heard regarding the removal or suspension; etc.

House Bill (HB) 959 ([Chapter 843](#)) Health Occupations - Certified Dialysis Technicians - Continuing Education Requirement, effective June 1, 2024. This bill alters the continuing education requirement for certified dialysis technicians to complete 3 hours of continuing education approved by the Board.

House Bill (HB) 1047 ([Chapter 262](#)) Consumer Protection – Self-Administered Sexual Assault Evidence Collection Kits, effective April 25, 2024. This bill provides that a party in a criminal trial involving an allegation of sexually assaultive behavior may not introduce information that physical evidence of sexually assaultive behavior was obtained using certain materials; provides that selling, offering for sale, or distributing a

certain self-administered sexual assault evidence collection kit is an unfair, abusive, or deceptive trade practice; establishes the Forensic Nurse Examiner Training Grant Program and the Forensic Nurse Examiner Training Grant Program Fund; etc.

House Bill (HB) 1051 ([Chapter 799](#)) / Senate Bill (SB) 1059 ([Chapter 798](#)) Maternal Health – Assessments, Referrals, and Reporting (Maryland Maternal Health Act of 2024), effective July 1, 2024. This bill establishes requirements on local health departments and certain health care providers and facilities regarding maternal health, including requirements regarding prenatal risk assessment forms and postpartum infant and maternal referral forms; requires hospitals and freestanding birthing centers to participate in the Severe Maternal Morbidity Surveillance Program to identify risk factors and causes of Severe Maternal Morbidity; requires the Program to report its findings and recommendations by December 1, 2025; etc.

House Bill (HB) 1053 ([Chapter 855](#)) State Board of Nursing - Executive Director Qualifications, effective July 1, 2025. This bill alters the qualifications for the executive director of the State Board of Nursing.

House Bill (HB) 1105 ([Chapter 890](#)) Advanced Practice Registered Nurses - Certification Requirement and Exceptions, effective July 1, 2024. This bill requires an individual, subject to certain exceptions, to be certified as an advanced practice registered nurse before practicing advanced practice registered nursing in the State.

House Bill (HB) 1125 ([Chapter 818](#)) / Senate Bill (SB) 999 ([Chapter 819](#)) Certified Nursing Assistants - Licensing Requirements and Administrative Updates, effective October 1, 2025. This bill exempts an individual who practices as a certain nursing assistant for less than 4 months under federal regulations from the State's certification requirement; alters the designation of, and licensure requirements for, certified nursing assistants and geriatric nursing assistants; requires an applicant for certification as a certified nursing assistant to complete a nursing assistant competency evaluation; etc.

House Bill (HB) 1127 ([Chapter 832](#)) / Senate Bill (SB) 950 ([Chapter 833](#)) Sexual Assault Forensic Examinations Conducted Through Telehealth - Reimbursement and Study, effective July 1, 2024. This bill authorizes the reimbursement of a sexual assault forensic exam conducted through peer-to-peer telehealth under certain circumstances; requires the Maryland Sexual Assault Evidence Kit Policy and Funding Committee to conduct a study on the feasibility of a telehealth program that includes a pilot program for conducting sexual assault forensic examinations through telehealth;

and requires the Committee to report its findings and recommendations to the General Assembly on or before December 1, 2024.

House Bill (HB) 1155 ([Chapter 885](#)) / Senate Bill (SB) 1071 ([Chapter 886](#)) Hospitals - Opioid Overdose and Opioid-Related Emergency Medical Conditions - Treatment, effective January 1, 2025. This bill requires hospitals to establish and maintain certain protocols and capacity related to the treatment of patients who are being treated for an opioid-related overdose or opioid-related emergency medical condition; requires hospitals to make a referral for patients who are diagnosed with opioid use disorder or administered or prescribed medication for opioid use disorder to an appropriate provider to voluntarily continue treatment in the community and work with peer support professionals for a certain purpose; etc.

House Bill (HB) 1171 ([Chapter 933](#)) / Senate Bill (SB) 944 ([Chapter 932](#)) Nonprescription Drugs and Devices - Provision by Registered Nurses and Sale of Contraceptives Through Automatic Devices, effective October 1, 2024. This bill prohibits the sale of natural membrane condoms, rather than all nonlatex condoms, through a vending machine or other automatic device; excludes a violation of the prohibition on the sale of natural membrane condoms through a vending machine or other automatic device from certain penalties; and authorizes registered nurses to provide, without a prescription, nonprescription drugs and devices in a local health department under certain circumstances.

House Bill (HB) 1388 ([Chapter 378](#)) Labor and Employment - Noncompete and Conflict of Interest Clauses for Veterinary and Health Care Professionals and Study of the Health Care Market, effective June 1, 2024. This bill applies to certain veterinary and health care professionals certain provisions of law stating that certain noncompete and conflict of interest provisions in certain employment contracts are null and void as being against the public policy of the State; establishes certain prohibitions regarding noncompete and conflict of interest provisions for certain health care employment contracts and similar documents and agreements; and requires the Maryland Health Care Commission to study certain issues related to the health care market in the State.

Senate Bill (HB) 718 ([Chapter 866](#)) Maryland Pathway to Nursing Pilot Program and Advisory Committee - Establishment, effective June 1, 2024. This bill establishes the Maryland Pathway to Nursing Pilot Program in the Maryland Higher Education Commission to support students in licensed practical nursing education programs who intend to practice nursing as a career in the State; requires the Secretary of Higher Education to issue grants to at least two pilot sites on or before July 1, 2025;

requires the Secretary, on or before each December 15 annually through 2029, to report to the Governor and the General Assembly on the implementation of the Program; etc.