

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2026 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
First Reader

House Bill 1364
Health

(Delegate Pena-Melnyk)

Public Health - Mammograms - Arterial Calcification Notice

This bill requires a center where mammography testing is performed to include, in a screening results letter that is sent to the patient as required by federal law, a specified notice about breast arterial calcification.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: The bill is not anticipated to materially affect State finances or operations.

Local Effect: The bill does not directly affect local government operations or finances.

Small Business Effect: Minimal.

Analysis

Bill Summary: The notice required by the bill must state as follows:

- If your mammogram shows breast arterial calcification, you should know that breast arterial calcification is a common finding. However, breast arterial calcification may be an indicator of an increased risk of cardiovascular disease. If you have breast arterial calcifications, please discuss this with your physician to assess your cardiovascular risks and determine if additional testing may be appropriate for you.

Current Law: A center where mammography testing is performed is required to include in a screening results letter that is sent to a patient, as required by federal law, a specified notice that states:

- This notice contains the results of your recent mammogram, including information about breast density.
- If your mammogram shows that your breast tissue is dense, you should know that dense breast tissue is a common finding and is not abnormal, with about half of women having dense or highly dense breasts. However, dense breast tissue can make it harder to find cancer on a mammogram and may also be associated with an increased risk of cancer.
- This information about the result of your mammogram is given to you to raise your awareness and to inform your conversations with your physician. Together, you can decide whether additional screening options are right for you based on your mammogram results, individual risk factors, or physical examination. A report of your results was sent to your physician.

If the Maryland Department of Health (MDH) finds significant differences between the content of the notice and current medical evidence on breast density, MDH may adopt regulations changing the content of the notice.

The penalty for a violation of the notice requirement may not exceed \$1,000.

Additional Comments: Breast arterial calcification can be found through a routine mammogram and is associated with higher risk for cardiovascular problems such as heart disease or stroke.

Additional Information

Recent Prior Introductions: Similar legislation has not been introduced within the last three years.

Designated Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Department of Legislative Services

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caw/jc

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