

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2026 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
First Reader

House Bill 1542 (Delegate Rosenberg)
Judiciary and Health

**Public Health - Goods, Services, or Technologies Used in Death Sentences -
Prohibition**

This bill prohibits a person doing business in the State from knowingly manufacturing, selling, distributing, dispensing, or otherwise supplying a drug, medical device, or other good, service, or technology, or compounding a drug if the person knows or reasonably should know that the order, prescription, or other authorization for the product was prompted, either directly or indirectly, by a person seeking the product with the intent to use it to carry out a death sentence. A violation of the bill is subject to a civil penalty of \$10,000. Additionally, if an applicant, licensee, or certificate holder under the Health Occupations Article violates the bill, a health occupations board must deny a license or certificate to the applicant or revoke the license or certificate.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: The affected health occupations boards can handle any violations with existing budgeted resources. Penalty provisions are not anticipated to materially impact State revenues.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: Potential meaningful.

Analysis

Current Law: Chapter 156 of 2013 repealed the death penalty in Maryland and made corresponding changes to applicable statutory provisions. However, under federal law

(18 U.S.C. § 3591), defendants in some states may be sentenced to death for certain violent or treasonous crimes.

Though there are some differences in the statutory language of health occupations boards, most boards may deny a certificate/license (credential), reprimand any credential holder, place any credential holder on probation, or suspend or revoke a credential if the applicant or credential holder commits any one of several acts, including certain behaviors of incompetence, negligence, or misrepresentation, among other things.

Small Business Effect: A small business in the State must follow the bill or be subject to a civil penalty. For a small business licensed under the Health Occupations Article (such as a pharmacy), a violation of the bill additionally could result in a license or certificate being revoked.

Additional Information

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

Designated Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Judiciary (Administrative Office of the Courts); Maryland Department of Health; Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services; Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - March 6, 2026
jg/jc

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