

SENATE BILL 579

L1, J1

(6lr2596)

ENROLLED BILL
— Finance/Health —

Introduced by **Senators Jennings, Gallion, Corderman, Carozza, Bailey, ~~and Salling~~
Salling, Beidle, Gile, Hayes, Hershey, Hester, Jackson, Kramer, Lam, Mautz,
and Ready**

Read and Examined by Proofreaders:

Proofreader.

Proofreader.

Sealed with the Great Seal and presented to the Governor, for his approval this
_____ day of _____ at _____ o'clock, _____ M.

President.

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Counties – No-Cost Preventive Cancer Screenings for Volunteer and Retired**
3 **Volunteer Firefighters**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring counties in which a volunteer fire company is located to offer
5 no-cost preventive cancer screenings in accordance with certain guidelines to
6 volunteer firefighters volunteering and retired volunteer firefighters who
7 volunteered with the volunteer fire company; authorizing a county to satisfy the
8 requirement by providing a certain annual examination or applying for a certain
9 grant; requiring the volunteer fire companies to maintain a certain list of volunteer
10 firefighters and retired volunteer firefighters and provide the list, annually and on
11 request, to the county in which the volunteer fire company is located; requiring the
12 counties to maintain the list provided; and generally relating to the provision of

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.

Italics indicate opposite chamber/conference committee amendments.



1 no-cost preventive cancer screenings for volunteer and retired volunteer firefighters
2 by counties.

3 BY adding to
4 Article – Local Government
5 Section 9–115
6 Annotated Code of Maryland
7 (2013 Volume and 2025 Supplement)

8 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
9 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

10 **Article – Local Government**

11 **9–115.**

12 (A) (1) IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS
13 INDICATED.

14 (2) “RETIRED VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER” MEANS AN INDIVIDUAL
15 WHO IS A RETIRED FIREFIGHTER WHO:

16 (I) VOLUNTEERED WITH A VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY IN A
17 COUNTY;

18 (II) WAS ACTIVELY INVOLVED IN FIRE SUPPRESSION WHILE
19 VOLUNTEERING WITH THE VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY; ~~AND~~

20 (III) HAS RECEIVED BENEFITS UNDER A LENGTH OF SERVICE
21 AWARD PROGRAM FOR AT LEAST 5 YEARS COMPLETED A MINIMUM OF 3 YEARS OF
22 VOLUNTEER SERVICE; AND

23 (IV) ACCUMULATED AT LEAST 50 POINTS UNDER A LENGTH OF
24 SERVICE AWARD PROGRAM OR A POINT SYSTEM ESTABLISHED IN LIEU OF A LENGTH
25 OF SERVICE AWARD PROGRAM.

26 ~~(2)~~ (3) “VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY” INCLUDES A VOLUNTEER
27 FIRE DEPARTMENT.

28 ~~(3)~~ (4) “VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER” MEANS AN INDIVIDUAL WHO IS
29 A FIREFIGHTER ACTIVELY INVOLVED IN FIRE SUPPRESSION AND VOLUNTEERING
30 WITH A VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY IN A COUNTY.

31 (B) (1) EACH COUNTY IN WHICH A VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY IS
32 LOCATED SHALL OFFER NO-COST PREVENTIVE CANCER SCREENINGS IN

1 ACCORDANCE WITH THE LATEST SCREENING GUIDELINES ISSUED BY THE
2 INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FIRE FIGHTERS TO EACH VOLUNTEER
3 FIREFIGHTER WHO VOLUNTEERS AND EACH RETIRED VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER
4 WHO VOLUNTEERED WITH THE VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY.

5 (2) EACH VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY SHALL:

6 (I) MAINTAIN AN UP-TO-DATE LIST OF VOLUNTEER
7 FIREFIGHTERS WHO ARE VOLUNTEERING AND RETIRED VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS
8 WHO VOLUNTEERED WITH THE VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY; AND

9 (II) PROVIDE THE LIST TO THE COUNTY IN WHICH THE
10 VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY IS LOCATED:

11 1. ON OR BEFORE OCTOBER 1 EACH YEAR; AND

12 2. ON REQUEST OF THE COUNTY.

13 (3) EACH COUNTY IN WHICH A VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY IS
14 LOCATED SHALL MAINTAIN A LIST OF ALL VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS WHO
15 VOLUNTEER AND ALL RETIRED VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS WHO VOLUNTEERED IN
16 THE COUNTY AS PROVIDED BY EACH VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY LOCATED IN THE
17 COUNTY UNDER PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION.

18 (C) A COUNTY MAY SATISFY THE REQUIREMENT IN SUBSECTION (B)(1) OF
19 THIS SECTION BY:

20 (1) PROVIDING A NO-COST ANNUAL EXAMINATION TO VOLUNTEER
21 FIREFIGHTERS AND RETIRED VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS THAT INCLUDES
22 PREVENTIVE CANCER SCREENINGS FOR FIREFIGHTERS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE
23 LATEST SCREENING GUIDELINES ISSUED BY THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF
24 FIRE FIGHTERS; OR

25 (2) APPLYING FOR A GRANT UNDER TITLE 13, SUBTITLE 40 OF THE
26 HEALTH – GENERAL ARTICLE TO PAY FOR INNOVATIVE CANCER SCREENING
27 TECHNOLOGIES, INCLUDING A MULTICANCER EARLY DETECTION BLOOD TEST.

28 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
29 1, 2026.