

# HOUSE BILL 1303

J3, J1, J2

6lr3050  
CF SB 600

---

By: **Delegate Angel**

Introduced and read first time: February 12, 2016

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

---

## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Freestanding Birthing Centers – Use of Ultrasound Imaging**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring the Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene, after  
4 consultation with certain representatives, to establish by regulation certain  
5 standards for the use of ultrasound imaging in a freestanding birthing center; and  
6 generally relating to freestanding birthing centers and the use of ultrasound  
7 imaging.

8 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,

9 Article – Health – General

10 Section 19–3B–01(a), (c), and (d)

11 Annotated Code of Maryland

12 (2015 Replacement Volume)

13 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

14 Article – Health – General

15 Section 19–3B–03(a)(1)

16 Annotated Code of Maryland

17 (2015 Replacement Volume)

18 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,

19 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

20 **Article – Health – General**

21 19–3B–01.

22 (a) In this subtitle the following words have the meanings indicated.

23 (c) “Freestanding ambulatory care facility” means:

---

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



- 1 (1) An ambulatory surgical facility;
- 2 (2) A freestanding endoscopy facility;
- 3 (3) A freestanding facility utilizing major medical equipment;
- 4 (4) A kidney dialysis center; or
- 5 (5) A freestanding birthing center.

6 (d) (1) “Freestanding birthing center” means a facility that provides nurse  
7 midwife services under Title 8, Subtitle 6 of the Health Occupations Article.

8 (2) “Freestanding birthing center” does not include:

- 9 (i) A hospital regulated under Subtitle 2 of this title; or
- 10 (ii) The private residence of the mother.

11 19–3B–03.

12 (a) (1) After consultation with representatives of payors, health care  
13 practitioners, and **FREESTANDING** ambulatory care facilities, the Secretary shall by  
14 regulation establish:

- 15 (i) Procedures to implement the provisions of this subtitle; and
- 16 (ii) Standards to ensure quality of care and patient safety that shall  
17 include:
  - 18 1. Procedures for credentialing and practitioner performance  
19 evaluation;
  - 20 2. Qualifications of health care practitioners and support  
21 personnel;
  - 22 3. Procedures to be followed in the event of an emergency,  
23 including a requirement that in the event of an emergency the patient be transported to  
24 the nearest appropriate emergency care facility;
  - 25 4. Procedures for quality control of any biomedical  
26 equipment;
  - 27 5. Procedures for postoperative recovery;
  - 28 6. Procedures for discharge; [and]

1                                   **7. THE USE OF ULTRASOUND IMAGING IN A**  
2 **FREESTANDING BIRTHING CENTER; AND**

3                                   **[7.] 8.** Any other procedures that the Secretary considers  
4 necessary for quality of care and patient safety.

5                   SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
6 October 1, 2016.