

HOUSE BILL 287

J1, P1

2lr0546
CF SB 243

By: **Delegates Pena–Melnyk, Amprey, Bagnall, Chang, Charles, Crutchfield, Cullison, Hill, Howell, Landis, Lehman, Ruth, Stewart, Valentino–Smith, and Williams**

Introduced and read first time: January 17, 2022

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Secretary of Health – Professional Qualification Requirement**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring the Secretary of Health to be professionally qualified through
4 certain experience or education; and generally relating to the Secretary of Health.

5 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
6 Article – Health – General
7 Section 2–102
8 Annotated Code of Maryland
9 (2019 Replacement Volume and 2021 Supplement)

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

12 **Article – Health – General**

13 2–102.

14 (a) The head of the Department is the Secretary of Health, who shall be appointed
15 by the Governor with the advice and consent of the Senate.

16 **(B) THE SECRETARY MUST BE PROFESSIONALLY QUALIFIED THROUGH**
17 **EXPERIENCE OR EDUCATION IN AT LEAST ONE OF THE FOLLOWING AREAS:**

18 **(1) HEALTH LAW OR POLICY;**

19 **(2) HEALTH CARE FACILITIES ADMINISTRATION;**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 **(3) HEALTH ECONOMICS OR FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT;**

2 **(4) GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS RELATED TO HEALTH CARE; OR**

3 **(5) AS A HEALTH CARE PROVIDER.**

4 **[(b)] (C) (1) (I)** The Secretary serves at the pleasure of the Governor and
5 is responsible directly to the Governor.

6 **(II)** The Secretary shall advise the Governor on all matters assigned
7 to the Department and is responsible for carrying out the Governor's policies on these
8 matters.

9 **(2) (I)** The Secretary is responsible for the operation of the Department
10 and shall establish guidelines and procedures to promote the orderly and efficient
11 administration of the Department.

12 **(II)** The Secretary may establish, reorganize, or abolish areas of
13 responsibility in the Department as necessary to fulfill the duties assigned to the Secretary.

14 **[(c)] (D)** The Secretary is entitled to the salary provided in the State budget.

15 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
16 1, 2022.