

# SENATE BILL 600

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4lr1991  
CF HB 103

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By: **Senator Kramer**

Introduced and read first time: January 26, 2024

Assigned to: Finance

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Committee Report: Favorable

Senate action: Adopted

Read second time: February 17, 2024

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## CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Maryland Medical Assistance Program – Dental Services – Coverage and Rate**  
3 **Study**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring the Maryland Department of Health to study the feasibility  
5 of including certain dental services and certain reimbursement among the coverage  
6 offered by the Maryland Healthy Smiles Dental Program and setting reimbursement  
7 rates for certain services at certain amounts; and generally relating to a coverage  
8 and rate study for dental services.

9 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,  
10 That:

11 (a) The Maryland Department of Health shall study the feasibility of:

12 (1) including among the coverage offered by the Maryland Healthy Smiles  
13 Dental Program, with minimal benefit restrictions:

14 (i) removable full and partial dentures; and

15 (ii) reimbursement for providers on a per-patient basis for house  
16 calls and extended care facility calls; and

17 (2) setting reimbursement rates for the services listed under item (1) of this  
18 subsection at amounts that are:

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**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.



1 (i) at a level that ensures that all dental care providers are  
2 reimbursed adequately to provide access to care; and

3 (ii) not less than 60% of:

4 1. the average commercial rates for all payors in the State  
5 who offer the services; or

6 2. if the average commercial rates cannot be determined, the  
7 benchmark charges for the American Dental Association Current Dental Terminology  
8 (CDT) codes of the services.

9 (b) In conducting the study required under subsection (a) of this section, the  
10 Maryland Department of Health shall solicit input from:

11 (1) State chapters of national professional dental organizations; and

12 (2) advocacy groups that work to improve the oral health of the State’s  
13 low-income populations.

14 (c) On or before December 1, 2024, the Maryland Department of Health shall  
15 report to the Senate Finance Committee and the House Health and Government  
16 Operations Committee, in accordance with § 2-1257 of the State Government Article, on  
17 the findings of the feasibility study required under subsection (a) of this section.

18 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July  
19 1, 2024.

Approved:

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Governor.

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President of the Senate.

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Speaker of the House of Delegates.