



STATE OF MARYLAND

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
Wes Moore

To: Secretary Meena Seshamani, Maryland Department of Health

From: Governor Wes Moore

Re: Directive: Creation of Regulatory Working Group

Date: September 23, 2025

Pursuant to my authority as the head of the Executive Branch of State Government under Article II, Section 1 of the Maryland Constitution and Section 3-302 of the State Government Article of the Maryland Code, I hereby direct you, as the Secretary of Health, to form a Regulatory Working Group on my behalf composed of the Department of Health, Maryland Insurance Administration, Health Services Cost Review Commission, Maryland Health Care Commission, and the Maryland Health Benefit Exchange to achieve the goals and objectives of the State of Maryland under the AHEAD model. The overarching goal of the Working Group will be to address issues that arise from the implementation of HR1 and AHEAD that impact constituencies throughout the healthcare landscape, including hospitals, healthcare providers, insurers, individuals and employers.

The new AHEAD agreement keeps the Maryland model intact – thereby improving health outcomes and saving Marylanders money. It does, however, impose increased savings requirements on the State. The Regulatory Working Group will work to create a structure to meet these new savings requirements, guided by three core values:

1. Health care quality, access, outcomes, and affordability must be paramount.
2. No critical health infrastructure should shoulder this burden alone, and the savings requirement will not be borne exclusively by hospitals.
3. We must operate as we always do – by being data driven and heart led.

The specific duties of the Working Group shall include:

- Submission of an initial plan outlining topics to be discussed and a timeline for those discussions to the Governor by October 10th. This submission shall include a plan for

100 State Circle, Annapolis, Maryland 21404
(410) 974-3400
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stakeholder engagement. This plan shall prioritize addressing policy changes regarding (a) cost shifts that may be necessary to meet the negotiated Medicare savings requirements and (b) the Medicare Advantage market.

- Regular updates on the progress of the Working Group's discussions to the members of the General Assembly as designated by the Senate President and Speaker of the House as directed in Chapter 615, HB 1104 of 2025.
- Submission of a report to the Governor by June 2026 with identified policy solutions inclusive of proactive steps that can be taken by their respective agencies, Commissions, or the Maryland General Assembly to stabilize healthcare affordability, access and quality throughout the State.

This Directive is effective as of the date indicated above.



Wes Moore
Governor