

Professional and Volunteer Firefighter Innovative Cancer Screening Technologies Program

Health General Article, Section 13-4007

Maryland Department of Health

June 3, 2024



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Wes Moore, Governor · Aruna Miller, Lt. Governor · Laura Herrera Scott, M.D., M.P.H., Secretary

June 3, 2024

The Honorable Pamela Beidle
Chair, Senate Finance Committee
3 East, Miller Senate Office
Building
Annapolis, MD 21401-1991

The Honorable Joseline A. Peña-Melnyk
Chair, House Health and Government
Operations Committee
Room 241, House Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401-1991

Re: Report required by Health General Article § 13-4007 and Chapter 219 of the Acts of 2019 (SB 727) - Professional and Volunteer Firefighter Innovative Cancer Screening Technologies Program (MSAR # 12330)

Dear Chair Beidle and Chair Peña-Melnyk:

Pursuant to Health General Article §13-4007 and Chapter 219 of the Acts of 2019 (SB 727), the Maryland Department of Health (MDH) is directed to submit an annual legislative report on the Professional and Volunteer Firefighter Innovative Cancer Screening Technologies Program (the Program) concerning the following areas: (1) the number of individuals who have been screened through the Program; (2) the types of tests used to screen those individuals; (3) the costs of the tests; and (4) the types of cancers detected by the tests. The 2023 fiscal year annual budget included a \$100,000 appropriation for the Program.

Regulations for this program went into effect on November 13, 2023 under COMAR 10.14.08. The regulations set out the application process for these grants, and grantee responsibilities. Additionally, MDH continues to (1) set up procedures such as procurement processes to prepare for the implementation of the Program; and (2) engage professional organizations with interests in the health and wellness of firefighters. Thus far, MDH has learned of research projects nationally that are geared towards early detection of cancer among firefighters, and how the Program can complement those research efforts in Maryland.

If you have any questions, please contact Sarah Case-Herron, Director of Governmental Affairs, at sarah.case-herron@maryland.gov.

Sincerely,

Laura Herrera Scott, M.D., M.P.H.
Secretary

cc: Marie Grant, JD, Assistant Secretary for Health Policy, Office of the Secretary
Sarah Case-Herron, JD, Director, Office of Governmental Affairs
Nilesh Kalyanaraman, MD, FACP, Deputy Secretary, Public Health Services
Elizabeth Kromm, PhD, Director, Prevention and Health Promotion Administration
Pamela R. Williams, MHA, Director, Cancer and Chronic Disease Bureau
Ken Lin Tai, MD, MPH, Director, Center for Cancer Prevention and Control
Sarah Albert, Department of Legislative Services (5 copies)