

HOUSE BILL 1494

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8lr3486
CF SB 964

By: **Delegates Morales, Angel, Atterbeary, Chang, Corderman, Cullison, Ebersole, Hayes, Hettleman, C. Howard, Jones, J. Lewis, Lierman, Moon, Morhaim, Patterson, Queen, Sanchez, Simonaire, Stein, Sydnor, Valderrama, and Wivell**

Introduced and read first time: February 9, 2018

Assigned to: Judiciary

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Social Services – Safe Harbor Child Trafficking Victim Service Pilot Program**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing the Safe Harbor Child Trafficking Victim Service Pilot
4 Program; providing for the purpose of the pilot program; requiring the local
5 departments of social services in Baltimore and Washington counties to implement
6 the pilot program; requiring certain local departments of social services to refer
7 certain children to the Regional Child Trafficking Advocate within a certain period
8 of time; requiring the Secretary of State, after consultation with certain entities, to
9 appoint certain Advocates; providing for the duties of an Advocate; requiring an
10 Advocate to submit a certain report to certain entities on or before a certain date and
11 at certain intervals thereafter; providing for the contents of a certain report;
12 providing that an Advocate located in a certain county has certain duties; requiring
13 the Department of Human Services to provide certain funding to carry out the pilot
14 program; requiring the local departments of social services for certain counties to
15 apply for certain grants for a certain purpose; defining a certain term; and generally
16 relating to the Safe Harbor Child Trafficking Victim Service Pilot Program.

17 BY adding to

18 Article – Human Services
19 Section 4–305
20 Annotated Code of Maryland
21 (2007 Volume and 2017 Supplement)

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

24 **Article – Human Services**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 **4-305.**

2 (A) IN THIS SECTION, "ADVOCATE" MEANS THE COMMUNITY-BASED
3 AGENCY APPOINTED AS THE REGIONAL CHILD TRAFFICKING ADVOCATE IN
4 BALTIMORE COUNTY OR WASHINGTON COUNTY.

5 (B) THERE IS A SAFE HARBOR CHILD TRAFFICKING VICTIM SERVICE
6 PILOT PROGRAM.

7 (C) THE PURPOSE OF THE PILOT PROGRAM IS TO ADDRESS THE
8 SPECIALIZED NEEDS OF CHILDREN WHO ARE VICTIMS OF SEX TRAFFICKING BY
9 LINKING VICTIMS TO NECESSARY SUPPORT SERVICES THROUGH A
10 COMMUNITY-BASED AGENCY APPOINTED AS THE REGIONAL CHILD TRAFFICKING
11 ADVOCATE.

12 (D) (1) THE LOCAL DEPARTMENTS OF SOCIAL SERVICES IN BALTIMORE
13 COUNTY AND WASHINGTON COUNTY SHALL IMPLEMENT THE PILOT PROGRAM.

14 (2) THE LOCAL DEPARTMENTS OF SOCIAL SERVICES IN BALTIMORE
15 COUNTY AND WASHINGTON COUNTY SHALL REFER A CHILD IDENTIFIED AS A
16 VICTIM OF SEX TRAFFICKING TO THE ADVOCATE IN THE PILOT PROGRAM WITHIN 24
17 HOURS OF IDENTIFICATION.

18 (E) THE SECRETARY OF STATE, AFTER CONSULTATION WITH THE LOCAL
19 DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES AND THE WORK GROUP TO STUDY SAFE
20 HARBOR POLICY FOR YOUTH VICTIMS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING, SHALL APPOINT
21 THE ADVOCATE IN EACH COUNTY.

22 (F) THE ADVOCATE APPOINTED UNDER SUBSECTION (E) OF THIS SECTION
23 SHALL:

24 (1) RECEIVE REFERRALS OF CHILDREN IDENTIFIED AS VICTIMS OF
25 SEX TRAFFICKING AND COMPLETE VICTIM ASSESSMENTS, SAFETY PLANNING, AND
26 CRISIS INTERVENTION;

27 (2) PROVIDE CASE MANAGEMENT SERVICES BY:

28 (I) DEVELOPING AN INITIAL COMPREHENSIVE SERVICE PLAN,
29 INCLUDING APPROPRIATE SERVICE REFERRALS;

30 (II) VERIFYING A CHILD'S ELIGIBILITY FOR NECESSARY
31 SERVICES AND COORDINATING THE APPLICATION FOR AND PROVISION OF
32 SERVICES;

1 (III) ENSURING THE CHILD'S ONGOING SAFETY AND ABILITY TO
2 PARTICIPATE IN SERVICES; AND

3 (IV) PROVIDING PERSONAL SUPPORT TO CHILDREN UNDER THE
4 CASE MANAGEMENT OF THE ADVOCATE;

5 (3) ADVOCATE ON BEHALF OF THE CHILD IN COMMUNICATIONS WITH
6 VARIOUS SERVICE PROVIDERS OR REGULATORY AGENCIES, INCLUDING CHILD
7 WELFARE, JUDICIAL, JUVENILE JUSTICE, LEGAL, EDUCATION, OR FEDERAL
8 IMMIGRATION AGENCIES;

9 (4) WORK TO ESTABLISH OUTREACH SERVICES TO SEX-TRAFFICKED
10 CHILDREN IN THE COMMUNITY, INCLUDING OUTREACH TO MARGINALIZED
11 POPULATIONS, INCLUDING MALES, TRANSGENDER CHILDREN, AND FOREIGN
12 NATIONALS;

13 (5) PROVIDE TRAINING TO REGIONAL STAKEHOLDERS AND HUMAN
14 SERVICES PROFESSIONALS REGARDING EDUCATION ON SIGNS THAT A CHILD MAY BE
15 A VICTIM OF SEX TRAFFICKING AND SERVICES AVAILABLE TO CHILD VICTIMS; AND

16 (6) PARTICIPATE IN LOCAL HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND SEX
17 TRAFFICKING TASK FORCES, COALITIONS, OR MULTIDISCIPLINARY TEAMS.

18 (G) (1) ON OR BEFORE OCTOBER 1, 2018, AND EVERY 90 DAYS
19 THEREAFTER, AN ADVOCATE SHALL SUBMIT A REPORT TO THE WORK GROUP TO
20 STUDY SAFE HARBOR POLICY FOR YOUTH VICTIMS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND
21 THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK CHILD SEX
22 TRAFFICKING INITIATIVE.

23 (2) THE REPORT REQUIRED UNDER PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS
24 SUBSECTION SHALL INCLUDE:

25 (I) THE NUMBER OF CHILDREN UNDER THE CASE
26 MANAGEMENT OF THE ADVOCATE AND THE GENDER, AGE, RACE, AND ETHNICITY OF
27 EACH CHILD;

28 (II) THE TYPES OF AND NUMBER OF CONTACTS FOR SERVICES
29 PROVIDED TO EACH CHILD UNDER CASE MANAGEMENT, INCLUDING CONTACTS IN
30 THE AREAS OF:

31 1. MENTAL HEALTH;

- 1 **1. THE LOCAL DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES;**
- 2 **2. THE LOCAL CHILD ADVOCACY CENTER;**
- 3 **3. LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES;**
- 4 **4. THE STATE’S ATTORNEY’S OFFICE; AND**
- 5 **5. THE DEPARTMENT OF JUVENILE SERVICES.**

6 **(1) (1) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL PROVIDE FUNDING OF \$200,000 EACH**
7 **FISCAL YEAR TO CARRY OUT THE PILOT PROGRAM.**

8 **(2) THE LOCAL DEPARTMENTS OF SOCIAL SERVICES IN BALTIMORE**
9 **COUNTY AND WASHINGTON COUNTY SHALL APPLY FOR GRANTS TO SUPPLEMENT**
10 **DEPARTMENT FUNDING FOR THE PILOT PROGRAM.**

11 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
12 1, 2018.